PROFANE EXISTENCE

MAKING PUNK A THREAT AGAIN!

ISSUE 13 EARLY 1992 | *FREE (IN) THE TWIN CITIES* | $1 IN SHOPS $2 BY MAIL

PROFANE EXISTENCE

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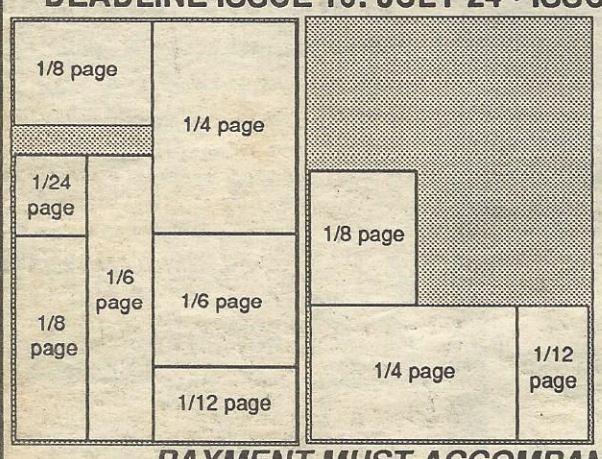

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CONSPIRACY:

EDITORIAL CREW

Troll • Newt • Joel • Criterion T. • Kerry Glitter • Todd • Chris Crisis

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Felix von Havoc • Stefan R. • Paul • Sluggo • Kristen

ARTWORK

Donovan S.• Tony G.

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It's not a highly publicized fact but we do provide subscriptions free of charge to prisoners anywhere in the world. However, chances are if you are a prisoner requesting issues, you will probably only receive one copy. If *Profane Existence* is really something you want to keep receiving, then write back and we'll put you on our subscription list.

SPONSORSHIP

We've been getting a lot of publicity for our prisoner support information which has resulted in a steep increase of prisoner subscription requests. This means a lot of extra issues being sent out each month with all expenses coming out of our own limited budget. We are asking for any sort of donations to help us continue to keep this service available -- perhaps you could send an additional dollar when you start or renew your subscription.

"THE NEWSPAPER WITH AN ATTITUDE PROBLEM!"

Profane Existence is the Bi-monthly (or "whenever we can afford it") magazine of the Profane Existence Collective. We publish each issue with the intent of spreading word of our own activities as well as to be a resource for those involved with anarchist and/or punk culture and activism. We also publish with the intent of crossing the barriers of alienation which keep society as a whole separated and pacified. If our politics or attitude somehow offend you... tough shit! Any reaction we cause mean that we've done more than... nothing.

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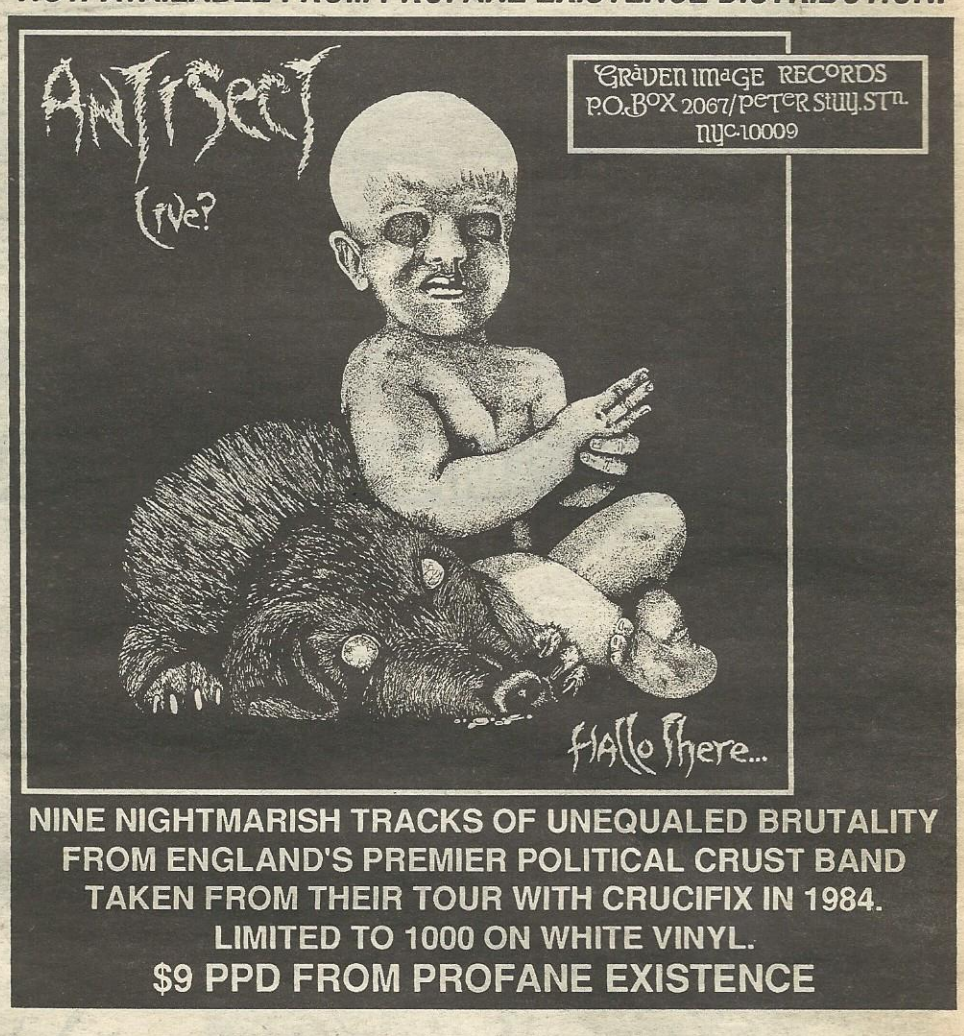

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PISSED 4-song 7" EP • HIATUS *Way of Doom* 7"EP • INTERNAL AUTONOMY *Caligula* 7" EP • DOOM *Police Bastard* 7" (repress)

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YO! Kalamity Kate is now collaborating with Dirty Dog Discharge Dawn to create the new and improved weekly Profane Existence Radio Show. Together we are working to achieve a communication medium via the radio waves which is revolutionary, not only in its music content, but political content as well. Listen every Thursday night from 5 to 7PM on WMMR cable radio

Write for a free playlist and info on how to hook up cable radio. You can also send a 110 minute blank tape for a recording of the show.

ALL THE ARMS WE NEED

UPCOMING FEATURES ON PROFANE EXISTENCE RADIO

- Series of reports "From the Silent Majority": Violence against wimmin and different forms of oppression.
- Swedish hardcore hour (once monthly) with co-host Felix Von Havoc.

WMMR RADIO
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PAGE 3 DRUNX

When SUBVERT came to New York the price of beer suddenly went up all over the Lower East Side. Pictured here is the dance floor shakin' at ABC-No-Rio where the crowd spent more time rolling around on the floor than anything else! Yes, that's Al from NAUSEA demonstrating the "lift-your-leg-and-fall-over", a smooth move probably learned in Minneapolis where it was invented. Photo by Chris Boarts who gets her very own FREE Profane Existence T-shirt because she's the ONLY person who remembered to send a photo in this month. You too can get that embarrassing photo of your friends and loved ones printed on Page 3. If your photo gets printed next issue we'll send you a PISSED EP (and maybe we'll even autograph it if it's really good!). If we don't print your photo it'll at least get a prime spot in the P.E. family album. Come on now, we asked nicely!

Welcome to issue #13 of Profane Existence! It's been quite an event-filled period for the Profane Existence Collective since our last edition. The possible eviction from our house has come as a sudden interruption to our normal activities but we are trying to carry things on as best as we can. Work on the magazine has been slow due to our efforts being drawn into other areas like distribution, T-shirt printing, and involvement with local activities. However, we have worked out a schedule which will bring us back to bi-monthly after next issue. As you have noticed we have also lengthened Profane Existence to an additional 4 pages which will better enable us to print longer and more in-depth features than in the past. However, this also changes our subscription and post-paid prices for the first time since we started in 1989. The change may seem a bit extreme but we have weathered one postage increase and are expecting another in early 1992.

This issue is sort of a feature on the Twin Cities area as we have not regularly printed articles relating to local issues or happenings. After all, if we're really in the punk rock capital of the world isn't it about time to put our money where our mouth is? In future issues we will concentrate a little more on covering local events, bands, and resistance culture in general. The Twin Cities has a lot to offer and in our international perspective we seem to sometimes ignore what goes on here.

By the time this magazine is printed we could full-well be evicted from our house. We are trying everything in our power to stay, at least until we can find another place live. Who knows what the future holds for us but we are determined to be the masters of our own destiny instead of kneeling down to those in power.

BASTARDS!

It looks like the Profane Existence Collective house may finally be coming to its demise at the hands of the city government. Earlier this year we had to face possible eviction when the house was nearly condemned for disrepair. Fortunately then we got our lazy landlord off his ass and he started the repairs he promised when we moved in--like fix the old and fucked up electrical circuits, etc. We were pretty close to being forced out then. The few things the landlord managed to do was enough to placate the city housing inspectors for only so long.

Now, just as we were sitting down to write an issue of *Profane Existence* singing the praises of how cool this city is, we had another visit from our friendly neighborhood housing inspector who was snooping around the outside of the house taking photos, etc. The day after Christmas she came to the door and we refused to let her in because we're sick of the nosy bastards coming around our house. Two days later comes a notice on our door saying we have until January 14 to vacate the house under an obscure law which says no more than three unrelated people can live in the same house(!) Of course this is the most ridiculous thing we've heard of and the absolute most petty way for the city government to deal with landlords who don't keep up their houses.

We tried to talk with people from the Housing Department who claimed that the notice was "probably the result of a complaint made by local Neighborhood Watch, Whittier Alliance, or the Police. They have plenty of reasons of why they should keep track of such things." When asked to explain how or if we could appeal we got no answer. The whole process here is obviously a farce. We have never had any unresolved problems with our neighbors and in-fact on several occasions our neighbors have kept us informed of when the housing inspectors have come snooping around our house! There have been no complaints. The whole thing is a very well-rehearsed scheme the city is using to force landlords to conform to their community's development programs.

I've lived in the south inner-city neighborhoods of Minneapolis long enough to know that community development means nothing more than profits for the rich. In neighborhoods such as the Wedge and Whittier the plans are for gentrification or the displacement of poor people. In the process of gentrification, the poor people who inhabited the neighborhood are forced out by the allowed proliferation of crime and the evictions from houses. You can always tell which areas of Whittier are next for gentrification because that's where the cops allow crack houses to exist and then the city condemns all the older houses in the area. In most cases these houses which are condemned become property of the city and then sold to bidders who are to refurbish the houses. If the landlord is quick enough to act then he may be able to save the house but the cost of refurbishment insures that the rent will be much higher, meaning only a higher class of people will be able to afford them. The rents inevitably start to rise in the area as a new class takes over and become the first line of defense for the city's plans. There's undoubtably a need for housing inspectors as long as there are lazy landlords but the systematic approach and the anal-retentiveness of the city is beyond suspicion. This is a clear-cut attempt to divide working class neighborhoods and push the poor people out.

So why is gentrification happening? The city obviously wants to keep it's sanitary cosmopolitan image so the gentrification of inner-city neighborhoods is part of their long-term plans. Groups like the Minneapolis Community Development Agency have been created to guide the projects along with these plans. So-called "community groups" like the Whittier Alliance and LHENA all support these programs because they are not grass-roots neighborhood organizations but actually represent neighborhood business interests who have a lot to gain by the upscaling of the neighborhoods. These people tell us in their shit newspapers how good they are making our neighborhoods. All-the-while, elderly and disabled people, who have lived in our neighborhood for years, are being forced out because their pensions or Social Security no longer covers their rent, single mothers are forced out, etc. necause they can't even afford a single-bedroom apartment! We all have to realize that wherever we live it's OUR neighborhood. Is this the sort of compassion we want to treat our neighbors with?

The whole process is a fucked up money-making enterprise for the rich. This very same process occurs not only in South Minneapolis, but also the North Side, St. Paul, Chicago, Berkeley, New York City, Berlin... every major city in the world! We need to take the initiative in Minneapolis to fight back and save our neighborhoods from the city's marriage to business. Inevitably the only real long-term solution will only come about with the elimination of government and capitalism.

Still homeless in the free world - *Troll* 1991

READERS' TOP 15 MUSIC LISTING

1.	NAUSEA *Cybergod* EP	3.2%
2.	EXCREMENT OF WAR 7"	3.0%
3.	AMEN *Paranemia* LP	2.2%
4.	RESIST *The Solution... Revolution* LP	2.1%
	EXTREME NOISE TERROR	2.1%
6.	THE EX *Hidegen/She Said*	2.0%
7.	FEAR OF GOD 7" (repress)	1.9%
8.	PINK TURDS IN SPACE split LP&EP	1.7%
9.	DEPRIVED *Reject the Illusion...* 7"	1.5%
	NATION OF ULYSSES "Live"	1.5%
11.	PAXTON QUIGGLEY demo	1.3%
12.	CONFUSION *Hopeless* 7"	1.2%
13.	NAKED AGGRESSION 7"	1.17%
14.	SMUT *Wall of Hate* 7"	1.15%
15.	SINISTER/MONASTERY split 7"	1.1%

A total of 68 ballots were cast for 49 bands/releases. EXTREME NOISE TERROR captured 2.1% of the vote, but it is interesting to point out that bands with members of EXTREME NOISE TERROR captured a total of 6.9% of the total votes.

We want to know your top 10 recordings at the moment so we can compile our *Readers' Top 15* next issue. For ease with tabulating do not list them in any specific order and please, no major labels!

PAGE 3 COPPER JOKES

Q1: What do you call a cop on a bicycle?
A1: A Moving target!
Q2: How do you stop a copper from drowning?
A2: Take your foot of his head!
(Stolen from The Free)

KILL WILLIAM BENNET!

(OR AT LEAST TELL HIM WHAT YOU THINK!)

William "Drug Czar-and-right-wing-conservative fuck" Bennet will be coming to Minneapolis on January 22 to speak at a $50-a-plate Dinner. The Dinner, which is a fund-raiser for the Center for the American Experiment, an ultra-conservative "think tank" set up to guide legislation, will be attended by mainly rich, white, right-wing hacks.

It's time we let them know we're tired of being the pawns to their "experiment" and let them never forget we're still here! Bring noise-makers, signs, etc. for an "Eat-the-Rich" begin and peasant's revolt!

IN FRONT OF THE DOWNTOWN RADISON HOTEL
(ACROSS THE STREET FROM CITY CENTER)
JANUARY 22, 5:00 PM
SPONSORED BY THE *TWIN CITIES ANARCHIST FEDERATION*

NEWS IN BRIEF

GO MARTIN GO!

Martin Foran, a prisoner jailed for petty robbery and kept in and beaten because of his prison activism, has escaped from his cell in England. Foran suffered severe health problems since hungerstriking against his first wrongful imprisonment in 1978. Jailed again in 1984, his health further deteriorated. Some of his health problems are due to the beatings he received by guards after a roof-top protest. Medical help was denied until Foran took a screw hostage, where he was finally given a colostomy, which was botched. Later he developed heart trouble and cancer of the eye. Not receiving proper treatment in jail, Foran was finally granted a two-day "humanitarian" parole to visit a hospital. He never returned. His wife and kids are with him. Keep on moving, Martin, and the best of luck to you.

-compiled from Counterinformation *and* Ecomedia

SINGIN' THE RACISTS OUT O' TOWN

Earlier this year the racist, nationalist, old-boy Fatherlands Party of Norway held their official founding meeting in the town of Bergen. Their nefarious, racist plans were foiled by a boisterous, joyful group of about 100 anti-racists who showed up at the meeting. Suddenly forming a majority in the hall, the anti-racists made full use of their newfound power in the assembly by electing a new steering committe. The new committee immediately decided that a series of anti-racist songs should be sung. Afterwards, an anti-racist action program was decided upon and the party's name was changed to the National Betrayers Party. The old boy racist pigs called the cops, but of course they couldn't do anything, it being a legal assembly. The cops left and the pig-headed old men walked home empty-handed as the anti-racists merrily sang another bunch of anti-racist songs.

-compiled from Ecomedia

Supermarkets Don't Burn by Themselves..

The Revolutionary Cells of Germany burned out a "Kaisers" supermarket in Berlin and a supermarket under construction in Ravensbrueck last summer, causing $750,000 in damage. The attack was in response to the federal government's plans to construct a supermarket complex on top of the lands of a former women's concentration camp at Ravensbrueck, where 90,000 women and children were tortured and murdered by the Nazis.

The supermarket complex was planned to incorporate the infrastructure of the former concentration camp, such as the streets. The bombings resulted in the management of Kaisers announcing a halt in construction. Whether the halt is permanent is unknown at the present time.

STILL CAN'T PAY, STILL WON'T PAY

That's all we're gonna fuckin' say!

On October 19, 2000 anti-poll tax demonstrators marched through London in support of the movement's demand for amnesty for all nonpayers and poll tax prisoners. The demonstration began with a women's picket at Holloway prison to show solidarity with imprisoned women poll tax resisters, then the mass march began in London, heading to Trafalgar Square, site of the infamous 100,000-strong Poll Tax Riot in March 1990. The march arrived at Trafalgar Square without incident or arrest, and several poll tax prisoners gave speeches despite the electricity for the PA system being mysteriously cut off.

Nonpayment of the poll tax has increased since the government announced the death of the much-hated tax by 1993. According to a government report, one-third of Britons have not paid their 1991-92 poll tax by the end of June. In the Lambeth area of London, 78% of the residents haven't paid, while a whopping 94% of Three Rivers in Hertfordshire have yet to fork over one red pence. Anti-poll tax groups are demanding that not only must nonpayment continue as long as the poll tax is in effect, but that all poll tax debts must be written off. Making the tax uncollectable through massive nonpayment is seen as the best way to accomplish this. Good work, people!

-compiled from London Fight the Poll Tax! *and* Counter Information

MOHAWKS NEED SUPPORT

More than a year after the Mohawk Nation at Kanesatake and Kahnawate physically defended their traditional lands from encroaching golf course development, cops, and the Canadian army, the trials for the Mohawk defenders are beginning. The remaining 44 Mohawks who have yet to be tried will go to court in February. Charges range from mischief to rioting to weapons possession to assault to destruction of property. Unfortunately, the Mohawk defendents are in desperate need of funds for their defense. The Mohawks were unable to obtain free legal service due to the large number of defendents, and they cannot meet their legal costs alone. If you'd like to help the brave people who inspired us all in their fierce struggle for self-determination, please send donations to The Akweks Fund, Account # 26-05317, c/o the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce / 119 Sparks St. / Ottawa, Ontario / K1P 5T5.

-compiled from Ecomedia

People's and Tompkins Square Park were not the only parks which got closed last summer. In the morning hours of July 23rd, 1500 riot cops with water cannons evicted the Flora Park.

FLORA PARK EVICTION

Article by Stefan

The Flora is located in the "Schanzenviertel" an area in the center of Hamburg, Germany, where many poor people live. The Flora has a long history: From a theatre, to a boxing arena, to a cinema, to a warehouse. In 1989, a rich investor wanted to build a whole new commercial theater on the ground for the musical "Phantom of the Opera" but had to give up his plans because of massive protests by inhabitants in the area.

When his workers were gone, the whole building was nearly torn down already. Just the entrance hall survived, but it too was in ruin, It was soon squatted even so, to turn it into a self-managed alternative community center. Today, two years later, still there are many things which need to be fixed in the building but it's full of life. It has a cafe with a vegetarian soup kitchen, silk screen facilities, a food coop, motorcycle workshop, practice rooms for bands, and lots of space for meetings, gigs, theatre, exhibitions, etc.

Until April '91 the back of the building looked the same as in November '91 when it got squatted — like a bomb crater full of trash.

Because the area lacks green places for the inhabitants, the squatters and many other people started to turn the construction site into a park. It took a lot of work but the results were worth it. All kinds of people went into the park each day to relax, communicate, etc. It was very much accepted by the people of Schanzenviertel.

The city council of course didn't like to see such events. They create an image in people's minds of squatters and autonome as black-dressed, destructive, child-eating monsters, which they don't want changed. But how to destroy the park without risking a massive solidarity wave with the Flora people? They found a way. They announced, "Because Hamburg needs social flats for poor people the city wants to build 42 apartments in the back of the Flora building." No one can deny that cheap living space is urgently needed here, but there are already many empty houses which people could move into if the city council agreed. But they don't do anything about it and let investors fill their pockets who speculate with these buildings. There are also many other empty grounds in the area where social flats could be built as well, if the city council agreed, but they sell these places to companies like Mercedes for selling cars.

Unfortunately, the city council plan worked out. Most people of the Schanzenviertel said "We need a park here but social flats are more urgent." So we lost a big important part of support for Flora. Several meetings took place on how to react on the day the bulldozers arrived. We agreed to meet inside the park and close the Flora building, because if people ran inside the Flora building during a fight, it could be evicted as well. The city also wants to get rid of the building so this could be the excuse they need.

In the morning of July 23 at 4:00 AM about 500 people showed up to support the Flora. Some people sat on the rooftops to watch the streets and pass news to the people in the park thru megaphones.

When the first blue lights flashed in the dark some people built barricades on the street next to the park and attacked the cops with bottles and flares but were forced to retreat because of the water cannons the cops used. The same event took place around the corner because the cops came from two directions.

It took the cops about an hour before the troops were ready to enter the park. They knocked their truncheons on their shields as they approached. When they were close enough they started to push us to the gate of the park. We pushed back and the cops started to beat people with their clubs. They surrounded us and left a little gap open. The police chief urged us to leave the park through this gap. But suddenly it got closed by a special riot police unit called SEK who look like robots and carry extra large sticks. They stormed into the crowd and hit everybody they could reach. The police chief had to tell the SEK to stop beating people through his megaphone.

When the people got pushed out of the park a part of the crowd attacked the police trucks which were parked on the street in front of the Flora. Also some civil cops, who arrested a person, were attacked. They pointed their guns on the people who wanted to free their prisoner, but everybody was full of hatred of them and paid no attention to their weapons. So the cops had to flee without the guy.

Altogether 12 demonstrators and six cops were injured that morning. Directly after we were kicked out of the park the bulldozers arrived and turned the park back into a bomb crater... In the afternoon 1500 people made a march to protest the closing of the park. A huge fence was built around the back of the Flora and special national police arrived to protect the construction site.

In the night 300 people came to the Flora and occupied the street in front of the building. Many threw all kinds of stuff on the cops; bags of liquid, flour, rotten vegetables, cans and bottles. The cops just stood there and tried to keep their uniforms clean with their shields—without success. After a while they looked like living garbage piles. Local cops appeared and expelled the people from the street, but after a half an hour they came back and the party continued. This happened every night for a whole week.

But not only was the park full of troops, the whole area has been infected with them. One street next to the Flora was blocked and only passable for habitants with an I.D. Off duty cops walked around with ice cream like they were on holiday. Many people there got sick of them. "Troops Out" posters were printed and put on walls and stores and restaurants put "No Entrance for Cops" signs in the windows. The newspaper wrote "Autonome force shops owners not to serve police officers in the Schanzenviertel, they act like Nazis in the Third Reich." The shops organized a press conference and told the reporters that nobody forced them because it was the cops who were a threat to the people in the area, not the Flora. Of course the newspapers didn't write that.

Many different actions took place on the days following the eviction, but the park is lost. Now the buildings are now accomplished. They are the most expensive social flats ever built because of the cost of the protection.

Two Flora activists Knud and Ralf were imprisoned and are still awaiting their court date. They are accused of, "Causing danger to the railroad traffic and attempted murder" because two civil cops say they saw them putting stones on a railroad track to derail a train. The train didn't derail and the train company even said, "It's not possible to derail one of our trains with a stone," so it's just another way for the government to criminalize our resistance, coming up with the silliest ideas to put us down. Besides Knud and Ralf would never do such a stupid thing which could hurt innocent people. Every weekend solidarity meetings take place in front of the prison. We hope to see both guys in the Flora cafe again, soon.

OREGONIANS TELL BUSH, REPUBLICANS AND THE PIGS EXACTLY WHAT TO DO:

President Bush's carefully orchestrated appearance at a fundraiser for fellow Republican Bob Packwood (Senator, Oregon) was met with a lively, defiant demonstration in Portland on September 18, resulting in 30 arrests by cops described even by the capitalist press as "a sometimes-zealous army of police officers."

The president, who spent less than an hour at the reception and breakfast, sped away on his Air Force One jet and missed the *real* reception waiting for him outside the Convention Center, where 1000 demonstrators eagerly jeered Bush and the rich scum who paid a minimum $250-a-plate for breakfast to hear him and Packwood speak. The protestors' favorite chants to the people entering and leaving the Center were "I hope you choke on your toast," and "Die, die, die!"

The protest continued for two hours after Bush's hasty exit until pigs declared it an "unlawful assembly" and cleared the streets. Demonstrators responded by taunting the cops, yelling "Bad cops, no doughnuts" and our favorite, the irrepressible "Die, die, die!" Protestors then began throwing eggs and horseshit from the police horses at the cops, who responded by indiscriminately spraying mace and striking with their clubs anyone who got too close.

After a half hour, the cops finally left. The enterprising protestors then confiscated the portable barricades used to keep them from the convention center and put them in the street, halting traffic. The protestors set up a "checkpoint," letting one vehicle through at a time as traffic backed up beyond sight on the busy thoroughfare. Police came back twenty minutes later and dispersed the festive event.

Three cheers to the creative protestors in Portland. Now the rest of us need to follow their fine example!

-compiled from the Eugene Register-Guard

DIE! DIE! DIE!

GREETINGS FROM ROME!

This is Roberta from the squat Piazza dei Siculi in Roma. I've known your zine this winter in London and I liked it enough to write to you and say something about our squat and our band ATTRITO.

As you can see in the photo, our squat is a big building near the central [train] station and in the most traditional political quarter in Roma: San Lorenzo. In this quarter there are many political situations (as in libraries, club, pub, and a radio) and us.

Our house was squatted last year, on the 2nd of June, and we've almost twenty people living in it. We've squatted as individuals and we live a collective life in the house; in fact on the first floor we have all collective rooms (kitchen, bathroom, video room, etc.) and on the second floor each one has a room. We also have a library, a room where we have books and many political materials, zines, something to distribution, an archives, etc. and we're interested in exchanging materials, ideas and news with everyone that seems to us to have affinity with our ideas and way of life.

Being in a band for us is trying to express our own feelings, ideas about the world surrounding us, the system oppressing us, or about ourselves, what we feel inside.

[To write the squat or the library, write "Casa Occupata" / Toto c/o Rosso e Nero / Via dei Piceni 39 / 00185 Roma / ITALY. To write Attrito, write to Fabbrizzio d'Andrea / Via Prenestina 186 / 00176 / Roma / ITALY. More info on squats in Rome is printed in Raising Hell no. 23 available for $2.00 from Box 32 / 52 Call Lane / Leeds, W. Yorks. LS1 6DT / England]

ATTRITO expresses ourselves, for this reason we want to have the total control in what we do, this is what we call self-management, freedom in action. We've created only a demo tape [so far]. In Italy it came out with a booklet with articles and info, but it's too hard for us to translate it.

Our tape is distributed only in the alternative noncommercial network as we refuse to play in commercial places or in political institutional events and to get in touch with the media.

This is a choice for us because we know if they put their hands on you it's just for their own business. They're inside the system and so they work for it while we want to destroy the system so we have to be outside of it as much as possible. These are just a few words trying to let you know our opinions besides the music; hoping the idea of self-management, of cooperation among free individuals against the authority, against the state, will start to develop itself.

EACH STATE KEEPS INDIVIDUALS IN THE IGNORANCE, IN THE MISERY AND IN THE NEED, TO BETTER CONTROL THEM. LET'S TAKE BACK OUR OWN LIVES, START CREATING MUTUAL AID, ANTI-AUTHOITARIAN SPIRITS, AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG FREE INDIVIDUALS.

BAY AREA EARTH UNBOUND

EARTH UNBOUND is both a unity and action group. Bay Area Earth Unbound and Santa Cruz Earth Unwound are two chapters of this new group that challenges the wrongs we see in the punk scene and in the left political movement in this country and that aims to make our counterculture more of a threat to those who hold power and oppress.

As we see it, there are serious discrepancies in both the punk and activist movements that leave us no strength against the Right. In our counterculture, this is seen in the commercialization of the punk scene and the tolerance for oppressive behavior within the punk community. In the political struggle, we see weaknesses caused by a general lack of militancy, the do-nothing "drop-out" pacifism left over fro the 60's, emphasis on single-issue causes and the lingering Marxist influence — all of which stifle our strength.

We feel a new evolving philosophy must arise in order to achieve the truly equal society we strive for. Too many activists fail to see the ties between the liberation of humans, animals and the environment. We believe this union, combined with a new wave of militancy is essential to achieve our goal of freedom from oppression.

We stand for veganism, environmentalism and human rights. We advocate direct action and a union of cooperative, non-hierarchical work groups as a serious effort to build a movement that can challenge the oppressive structures built into our society.

We encourage others to set up chapters across the country to advocate and expand on these ideals. People interested should send a SASE for an information packet to Bay Area Earth Unbound / PO Box 423592 / San Francisco, CA / 94102. We also have animal rights and feminist literature available for an SASE. Santa Cruz Earth Unwound are producing t-shirts and a publication which will be out soon. Contact them temporarily through the above address.

Never Mind Profane Existence, *Here's. . .*

EARTH UNBOUND

In an effort to educate as many people as possible while building up the anarchist community, we have formed Earth Unwound. We push a stance of eco-anarchism; this entails veganism, militant environmentalism, as well as anarchist philosophies. We believe in the necessity of creating an alternative lifestyle and existence, along with the Church of Wattie. The creation of alternatives is essential in order to move people towards a more equal society, where everyone listens to the Exploited.

While we advocate resistance to our oppression, we feel that it is equally important to build and create anarchist communities. This is necessary to provide support and caring for each other, while forming alternatives to replace the systems we despise. Currently there are three anarchist collectives in Santa Cruz (that we know of). We are in regular contact with one and hope to create a fourth next year. Much of our work strives to build and unite the anarchist communities with the "Sid-punx."

Our first project is our publication, now available from Profane Existence (buy it). We will go bi-monthly in February (buy it). Future projects and goals include: a collective household, the growth of our zine, a tighter-knit anarcho-community here in Santa Cruz as well as everywhere, the utilization of new mediums to promote change and to make Christopher smile more often.

We hope to affiliate with all zines, groups, labels, etc. of similar beliefs to create a stronger anarchist network. Currently we are working close with Profane Existence, Bay Area Earth Unbound, and *Slingshot* (a UC Berkeley anarchist zine). We encourage any and all to contact us so we may affiliate. We are making a point to network all groups regardless of whether they are punk based or not; obviously we affiliate with the Profane Existence poseurs.

In closing, we encourage all to contact us and buy our zine.

UCSC / Oakes 527 / 1156 High St. / Santa Cruz, CA / 95064

A SHORT OVERVIEW OF ANARCHISM IN FRANCE

Provided by the MAI

Anarcho-Syndicalism: During the first part of the century, anarcho-syndicalism was very much an influence in the French labor movement (with the CGT before 1914 which was syndicalist-revolutionary). But the libertarian ideas lost power before the the spreading of communism. In 1946 the French CNT of the IWA was founded but a lot of anarchists decided to join the more important unions in order to influence them. For decades the CNT was very weak with a few militants but over the past 10 years it's power is growing.

Now the CNT has more than 600 adherents and is very active with the immigrated workers of Paris. Its last congress of May '91 showed that a lot of youth are in its ranks and are creating unions in their towns. It was then the Confederation decided upon the creation of the federation of the Young Libertarians or Young Anarcho-Syndicalists.

Many other libertarians are still active and have at times had important places in the communist union (CGT) or reformist ones (FO, CFDT)

ANARCHIST ORGANIZATIONS:

The libertarian movement is very divided. Since the 1950's there have been a number of splits and divisions. The national organizations are:

Federation Anarchist (FA) represents the orthodox movement. It is the oldest organization. The FA publishes a weekly review (10,000 copies) *Le Monde Libertaire*, has a radio in Paris and a theater. But the FA is not very dynamic and has lost more and more militants (now less than 300). The FA group makes a lot of propaganda but are not very active in the social movement.

Union de Anarchistes (UA) It's a small organization (60 militants) with a traditional conception of anarchism. The militants are often old and there's few youth involved. They are active in syndicalism and anti-militarism.

Union des Travailleurs Communistes Libertaires (UTCL) is a fraction of an anarchist movement near Trotskyism (with about 60 militants). They want an organization which is well organized and homogeneous, They work overall in reformist unions and have very bad relations with the CNT. They have important places in reformist unions (in CFDT). This organization is very isolated from other fractions of the anarchist movement but is efficient. They have a youth organization (CJL) with about 60 militants.

Organization Communiste Libertaire (OCL) Nearly leftists, they don't like syndicalism and prefer to work in united collectives (ecologist, anti-fascist....). They are few (40) but are very active in the social movement. OCL publishes a good review which is distributed in book shops. There are a few youth involved.

A lot of anarchists don't belong to organizations but are active in a lot of social movements; Green Party, unions, small collectives...

Since 1986 the anarcho-punk/alternative movement has grown strong with the popularity of BERURIER NOIR, a band who brings a lot of young people to anarchism. This movement is very dynamic but very poorly organized. The bands, fanzines and labels are numerous. A lot of punks or "alternatifs" joined SCALP which is an anti-fascist organization of the libertarian tendency.

Reflex is an anarchist collective based upon autonomous struggles (anti-fascist, squats, separatist...) but they are not numerous. They publish a very good review.

Another libertarian collective, **Solidarité Amérique Latine**, is highly specialized and want to help the revolutionary movement of Latin America. they publish an overview of the struggles of these countries in a bi-monthly review.

A lot of people think the anarchist movement is too weak and splintered. Some youth created the **Movement Anarchiste International** (MAI) which attempts to coordinate and unify the anarchist ranks. MAI thinks division is not the solution and this organization wants to start the unification of the libertarian movement and create a real revolutionary strategy. MAI want to improve the efficiency and relation between anarchists. MAI has created a press agency and publish a review about the struggles all over the world. MAI is not a militant organization but a kind of an anarchist lobby. MAI would like to create a review of information in each country in order to exchange information about struggles and to improve the solidarity and the efficiency of the international movement.

MAI / BP 273 / 38407 St. Martin d'Héres Cédex / France

Anti FASCIST ACTION

London Anti-Fascist Action was formed in 1985 to co-ordinate opposition to anti-fascist activities fractured since the Collapse of the Anti-Nazi League in the early 80's. London AFA have been busy since its founding, organizing, among other things, counter-demonstrations to stop Nazi marches and meetings, anti-fascist awareness and benefit gigs, *Cable Street Beat* magazine and chasing Nazi organizers such as Skrewdriver from London. They have put together a very thorough pamphlet outlining the history and direction of anti-fascist activities and their part. They are interested in contacting and working with other anti-fascist groups around the world. For a copy of their "Anti-Fascist Action - An Introduction to the London AFA" pamphlet send a donation to AFA/CSB / BM 1734 / London WC1N 3XX / England

BETTER WORLD ORGANIZATION

Better World Organization is a non-profit punk/hardcore association based in Lisbon, Portugal. BWO is looking for bands interested in contributing songs for our future compilation tapes as well as to be featured in our magazine. Bands interested please get in touch with us, we always write to everyone (communication not isolation). We also organize gigs in Lisbon and we run a non-profit distribution. People interested can write for more details. Our address is: Apartado 1789 / 1017 Lisboa Codex / PORTUGAL

FREE SOCIETY and the YOUTH GREENS

The Youth Greens, now in transition, announce the public action of their new journal *Free Society*. Formed in 1988, the Youth Greens through the years have made contacts with a variety of groups and individuals, through both study and activism, with whom we share a common project. The Youth Greens explicitly state their oppositional eco-anarchist politics. Their adopted principles include: Anti-capitalism, eco-feminism, gay, lesbian and bisexual liberation; revolutionary dual-power and radical municipalism; and democratic decentralism. In addition to local community work, their actions have included initiating anti-capitalist eco-actions in the New York and San Francisco financial districts.

However, many Youth Greens believe the organization's name, as well as the long set of principles, are prohibitive to those who might otherwise get involved. The problem they have set is salvaging the significant theoretical and practical work that's been done by Youth Greens while reconstituting a new group which will involve a larger number of groups and individuals. They hope to involve those who have been active in the Youth Greens over the years as well as new people in a wide ranging discussion of the state of oppositional movements and ways forward. They see great potential for pulling together a network or confederation based on social ecology with a commitment to both the democratic development of theory and direct action.

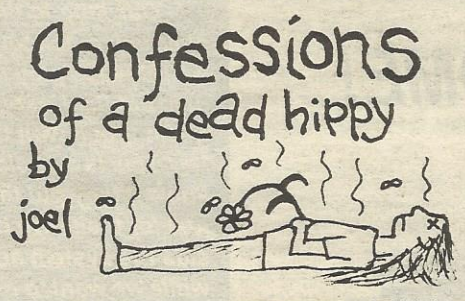
They hope that over the next year debates over a new name and direction can take place with this journal serving as both catalyst and open forum. For a year's subscription (4 issues) send $5 to: Youth Greens / PO Box 7293 / Minneapolis, MN / 55407. **Please Subscribe.**

In solidarity,

the *Free Society* journal collective

A New Punk Manifesto

Punk has done important things in its short history. (It's done some really stupid things, too, but that's for someone else to chronicle.) Out of the waste heap of middle class values and shopping mall ethetics, we've built a culture that has allowed us to survive the postindustrial world while at the same time salvaging some semblance of our independence, freedom, creativity, and human integrity. As important as this is, it is now time for punk to enter a new phase. Punk has allowed thousands of youths to survive in this rat heap of a world through its music, zines, and communities; now it's time to change the rat heap itself.



For the most part, punks, have historically been interested in shocking society. In North America, at least, punk's political practice has been to reject the middle class values shoved down our throat. Being a largely white, middle class youth movement (again, at least in North America), punk's relations with the outside world have been concentrated on shocking and rejecting that world, from the most political Crass punk to the drunkest Sore Throat punk to the sincerest Minor Threat punk to the most idiotic Exploited mall punk. About the only punk subgroup I would exclude from this generalization would be the wave of upper middle class straightedge and pop punk fans, although there are significant numbers of people in these groups who also spend most of their political activity (where "political" is defined as one's relations with the social world) rejecting the morals and values of white bread America.

This rejection of our roots, our middle class backgrounds, is important, for (theoretically, at least) we are the inheritors of the white supremacist, patriarchal, capitalist world order. A prime position as defenders of the capital of the ruling class and the overseers of the underclass has been set aside for us by our parents, our upbringing, our culture, our history, and yet we have the moral gumption to reject it. As punks we reject our inherited race and class positions because we know they are bullshit. We want no part in oppressing others and we certainly want no part of Suburbia, our promised land.

However, as important as it is for us to reject our somewhat privileged backgrounds, it is also not enough. Our goal needs to be not to merely reject society, but to recreate it as well. Punk's effectiveness up to now has primarily been negative in the sense that its primary political acitivity has been to criticize and reject America and everything it stands for. Now it is time to take positive action. We need to turn our anger and disgust with middle class America and creatively channel it into mass-based political action.

To say that punk's effectiveness has been entirely negative and reaction-oriented would be dead wrong, and I don't mean to demean the accomplishments of punk by any means. To see the positive influences of punk, we need to look beyond the average mosher at an AGNOSTIC FRONT gig and examine the smaller, more active community of punks who do zines, write mail, run independent labels and distribution services, organize gigs and/or demos, etc. The people in these communities do an enormous amount of very vital work, work that keeps us from going insane within this fucked up Amerikan society. That work needs to continue.

The positive political activities of punk primarily fall in two categories. One is our work in developing the punk community. This kind of activity includes writing fanzines, putting out records, setting up gigs, having picnics, distributing punk materials, writing mail, traveling, and simply hanging out with our good punk friends. The second kind of positive punk political activity is the focus on changing our individual selves. This includes vegetarianism / veganism, emphasizing recycling, exploring racism, sexism, and homophobia in our punk communities and within ourselves, etc. As I've said, these activities need to continue. They are absolutely necessary in creating change, and in making change fun. After all, without punk, what would the disaffected middle class youth of Amerika have to listen to, the goddamn GRATEFUL DEAD? The CHILI PEPPERS? Yeesh.

However, we need to add a third element in our goal to make positive change: organizing with other revolutionary elements in our society. In case you didn't know, punk is and needs to be revolutionary. The fact that it doesn't seem so indicates not that punk is liberal or reactionary but that we as punx have been selling ourselves short in realizing the potential of punk and our potential to thoroughly fuck up this society. Punk is one of the very few middle class youth cultures in North America that actually rejects middle class values. This puts us punks in a unique position, and we need to use this position as rejectors of the inheritance to our advantage and to the advantage of oppressed peoples by working with them: women, blacks, Native Americans, homeless, queers, i.e. the underprivileged. We've abandoned our middle class backgrounds, now it's time for us to unequivocally side with the oppressed.

Punk rejects America completely. Punk demands something new. Punk is and needs to be revolutionary, and if you don't agree, maybe it's time for you to turn in your 7" collection for a Columbia House CD Club membership. Just don't be surprised when we bulldoze through your fucking house someday.

Punks do an excellent job, for the most part, in developing our own community. It's time to take that experience into the larger community and infuse our spirit and creativity with mass-based revolutionary potential. We need to help organize and work towards a mass movement, one that's set on destroying America as it stands and empowering the dispossessed. We need a revolution and it's time for punk to be a part of it!

Further, we need to be more than superficial. We need more than another zine. We need to organize and get established in our local communities. We need to offer our collective strengths to the struggles of oppressed people, which, after all, are our own. I'm talking about expanding our present facilities, I'm talking about developing new ones. We need to continue to put out zines, but we need to get them out beyond the punk community, even if that means giving them away. We need to make better use of our present facilities and open them up to the rest of the community. Epicenter, the punk-run nonprofit record store and community center in San Francisco is an example of this, like when they opened their doors to the community as a meeting space for the General Strike meetings during the Gulf War and when they open their space for various community groups to hold their meetings. Not every city has an Epicenter, to be sure. It's time to work with the rest of the underprivileged people in our communities and build them.

We need other new resources. We need outreach: punk soup kitchens, community groups, free stores, etc. We need to let people know that we are on the side of people, not privilege. The fascists are organizing in our communities; we need to beat them at their own game. Why do you think the KKK and the racist populist movement enjoys such success in poor farming and lower middle class communities? Because they actually go into those communities and work with the people there and help them in their struggles with the rich and powerful who are trying to destroy their lives (e.g. by helping farmers keep their land from the banks, etc.). We need to do the same thing, but we need to offer anti-fascist alternatives to the people who need help in empowering themselves. This will take a mass, broad-based movement, and punks need to take an active part in that.

The fascists are organizing in our communities; we're not. Time to change. Make no mistake, war is coming to Amerika. It's overdue. Look at the economy, look at the deteriorating condition of our cities, look at whatever you want. The New World Order of Bush and his lackeys is heralding in a new age, and it's not going to be pretty. The New Right want a piece of you, the racist Right wants a piece of you, the upper class want to keep their piece of you. Are you going to let them? War is coming to Amerika, and it's time to prepare, punx. We need to fight if we are to survive, and being punx, we undoubtably can figure out a way to have a good time doing it.

Getting involved in the community does not mean we have to sacrifice our identities. We don't have to "grow up," look nice, act polite, or refrain from drunken binges to be revolutionary or to work with non-punks. We're punks and we will change the world as punks. We need to help out those who need help in our community as punx and let folks know that we're on their side and that we're ready for a revolution, even though we're white and largely middle class and male.

So what are we doing here in Minneapolis? Profane Existence is taking an active part in a new local anarchist group, Twin Cities Anarchist Federation. TCAF has just started, and our focus will be on community activities and creating solidarity with other groups in the Twin Cities struggling for self-determination as well as working toward, well, total social revolution. Further, Profane Existence will emphasize and document punk activities and punks who are getting involved in their communities. In this issue, check out the Anti-Racist Action piece.

It's time to fess up. We're punks, we hate society, and we want a new world. We're revolutionaries. As revolutionaries, it's time to work with the underprivileged and angry elements in our communities and to get organized. It's in our hands, and we should expect nothing less from punk and from ourselves. We will make punk a threat again, together. Let's do it!

Greetings to everyone in Punk land. As some of you may know by now I was lucky enough to be in St. Petersburg, Russia during the August coup attempt and took part in the demonstrations which helped stop the junta. I wrote an account of the coup in September's *Love & Rage* so check it out. I think *Love & Rage* has improved a lot lately and now features an AYF page to boot. Since *Profane Existence* is coming out less often, *Love & Rage* helps fill the void for anarchist news & opinions, even if its not as punk as we are. I urge everyone to support the *Love & Rage* project by buying and reading it. In this issue you get to hear my opinions on a few items so put on your DISCHARGE record and read along.

1. One thing which has disturbed me for quite some time is the tendency towards liberal, reformist, "progressive" mainstream left attitudes in the punk movement. I would have to say that *MaximumRockNRoll* champions this political view most of the time as do some other zines and bands. What I have to say is not an attack aimed at *MRR* or any specific group, but a general critique of reformist versus revolutionary anarchist politics in general.

Basically what it boils down to is this - the reformist is a statist. The reformist does not have enough faith in the individual and the community to manage their own affairs and therefore uses the coercive power of the state in order to enforce "progressive" social measures. The revolutionary anarchist seeks to destroy authority and replace it with freedom and local self reliance. I think it is highly flawed to count on the government to enact social reform towards a more just society since any statist society is going to be based on class divisions and inequality. Instead, reformist politics act as a safety valve for those concerned with the symptoms of capitalism and statism such as poverty and inequality, rather than attacking the system which is their cause. It only serves the interest of the ruling class and the state to have thousands of intelligent and concerned individuals devoting their efforts to token reforms which will in no way affect the reigning power structure.

Aside from this, what really peeves me is the naive belief that the government is a benevolent tool which can be picked up and used for "progressive" social engineering schemes. The state exists as a means to enforce the will of the ruling elite on the ruled. It is by its very nature corrupt and will only enact reforms which will benefit the ruling elite and stunt the revolutionary impulse of the people.

The reformist tendency in American politics especially since the New Deal has resulted in a shift in American attitudes toward government. In the old view, the state existed to conduct matters in international affairs and defense etc. and was to be kept as far out the lives of individuals as possible. Since the New Deal, reformist politics have become entrenched in the American political landscape and have resulted in the perception of the government as having the right to intrude into every aspect of private and public life for the benefit of the common good. This has resulted in the intrusion of the state into every sphere of personal life. Since the depression, the size and power of the U.S. government has increased dramatically without successfully ameliorating any of the fundamental economic and political realities which caused the depression.

During the depression, the ruling class realized that the social reforms demanded by the people would have to be granted to stave off revolution. The working class, regrettably, chose to put its faith in the government and its reforms rather than take revolutionary action. The result is the behemoth we have today, its influence extending into every dimension of our lives.

What I'm getting at is this - by working for the token reforms and social engineering schemes enacted by the state, we only stab ourselves in the back. The state continues to function for the benefit of the ruling class and our energies are safely diverted from actions which could challenge the state. Furthermore, we tacitly accept the legitimacy of the state and its authority over us. We allow the extension of its powers and erosion of our rights.

So if you are concerned about a social problem, instead of fighting for some inane new law or regulation, why not examine what kind of grass-roots community action can be taken to address the problem.

2. As we all know, there are dramatic social and political changes under way in Eastern Europe and the former U.S.S.R. One disturbing aspect of this is a rise in nationalism and racism. Across the former communist bloc, the former communist bureaucracy and ruling elites are still essentially in power with only a few reformist politicians in elected office. These bureaucrats are rapidly undergoing an ideological flip-flop from Stalinist communism to right wing nationalism.

With the total bankruptcy of Marxist politics and the long standing rejection of communist regimes by the Eastern European working classes, the only ideological crutch which could prop up the state has been nationalism. This has been universal in the communist world since World War II. Faced with the prospect of overthrow, the Eastern European ruling elites simply jumped ship from communism to capitalism while sacrificing a few of their own to the wrath of the masses (i.e. - Ceauceascu).

Nationalism remains the glue which binds the state to society, a crass lowest common denominator appeal which reduces every issue to us vs. them, and retains the elite in power. One result of this trend has been a rise in racism and anti-semitism in Europe. Racist right-wing parties are going all across Europe and are making considerable gains in local elections. The youth wing of this movement, primarily Nazi-skinheads and "faschos" have instituted a reign of terror on the streets which is reminiscent of the 1930's nazi street action such as the Kristallnacht. Attacks on immigrants and vandalism of Jewish synagogues and homes are the blatant street manifestation of a widespread turn to the right and embrace of nationalism across Eastern Europe. Analysts predict that this rise of neo-Naziism in Europe may lead to a resurgence of fascist politics and Nazi youth groups in America. Given the rise of David Duke to a national candidate, I could hardly argue with this prediction.

Closer to home, the Northern Hammer Skinheads, Ku Klux Klan and other white power groups remain active in East St. Paul. This racially tense neighborhood was the sight of close to half of all the hate crimes in St. Paul so far this year. Racism and neo-Nazi groups aren't unique to areas like East St. Paul, but I think it is important for us to concentrate some effort on problem areas in order to keep such groups from spreading. We have to confront racism and fascist politics wherever we find them, but I would argue for a heavy focus on communities in peril. It is here that the fascists will either win their first victories or be crushed like the scum they are.

No Venue? No Shows!

It's been a slow winter in Minneapolis for punk gigs, especially "all ages" gigs. The obvious lack of gigs is not because there are no bands but the lack of a reliable venue. There's been numerous articles on this subject in previous issues but the need for alternative space is even more urgent than ever now.

There are several venues which have done punk and hardcore gigs in 1991 but for one reason or another they have not proven effective. The bigger corporate clubs have all proven that they're greedy, fucked-up bastards who rip-off bands, promoters and fans. First Avenue is the most notorious but just about all the other clubs are the same way because they exist only to make money and have no concept of our culture nor feel any regret when they fuck someone over.

Some bands, especially out of town bands, have resorted to playing gigs at bars, like the Uptown. Now I can't complain about a gig with a $1 or $2 cover price (if any) but if you want to drink you're looking at blowing your life savings in one night! Besides the fact that bars totally rip off their patrons, they obviously discriminate against younger people. Although I realize this isn't their fault, they aren't a viable alternative for having gigs on a regular basis when your friends and room mates can't even get in!

There are several "alternative" places for gigs in the Twin Cities but the only one that's been receptive to punk gigs has been Motor Oil Coffee Shop / Speed Boat Gallery in St. Paul. Then, even here, there are problems like being so far away from the beaten path that it's hard for people without cars to get to and not being consistant with promotion or booking. There are other places like Cedar Cultural Center, but as we discovered, are not very receptive of punk gigs; as they said, "We are a cultural center and we do not put on heavy metal shows." Get real! Seward and Riverside Cafes have been pretty willing to do shows but they are not fully set-up for it and wouldn't be able to host events on a regular basis.

The Twin Cities needs an alternative venue if our growing punk and hardcore community is going to sustain itself. There are far more good bands in the Twin Cities than good places to play. Gigs in the THD house or the Profane Existence house are cool but are not going to further encourage involvement in the scene and community at large.

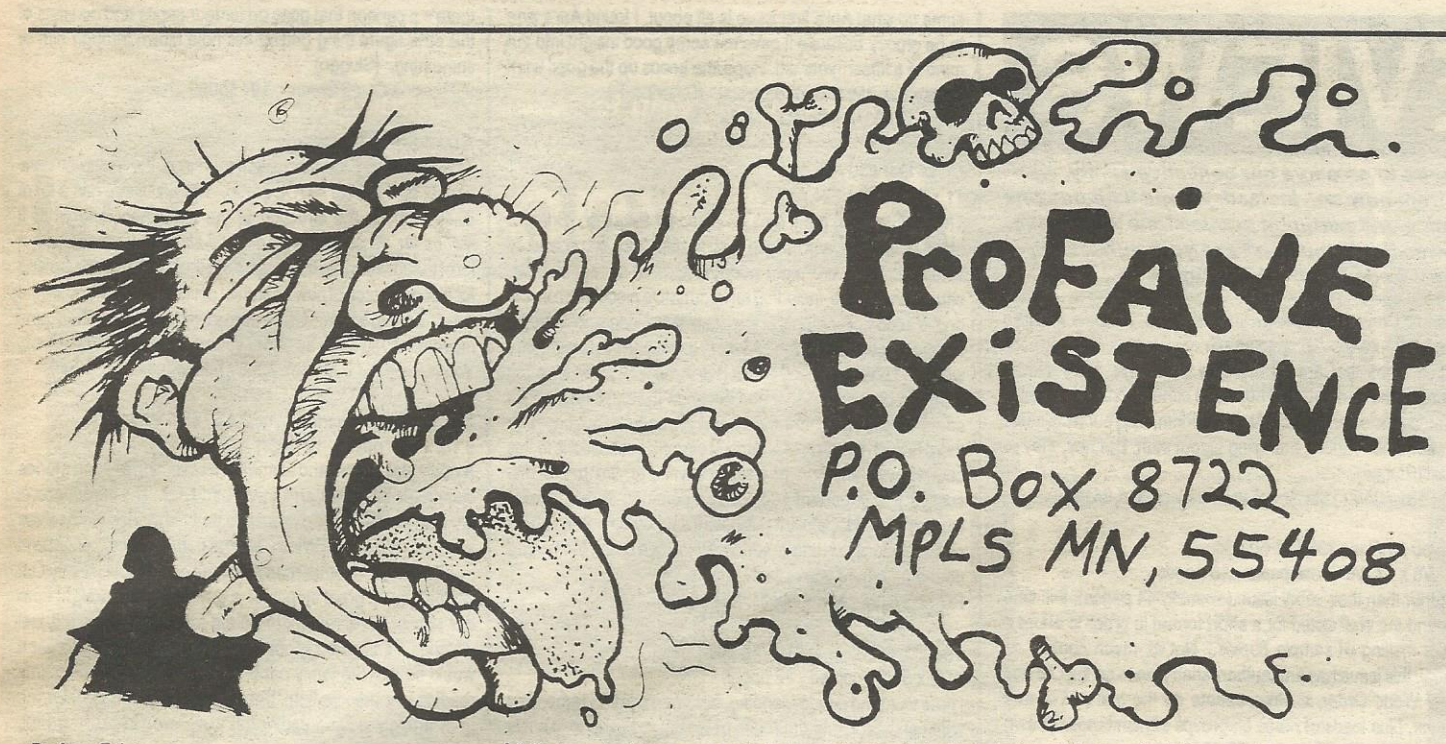
We should take the initiative made example by Gilman Street in Berkeley or ABC-No-Rio in New York City and build something for ourselves for all to use. We need an alternative space run by those who use it. We can do it without bosses or profits and we should do it now!

An open letter to First Avenue employees;

I realize that many of you may have taken offense to my criticisms in the last issue of *Profane Existence*. However, these were not directed at the staff of employees as a whole. You must realize that the current management policy does not treat all their employees fairly—for instance the bands, promoters or other people involved with setting up gigs: When a band plays First Avenue, unless they are a huge draw with a professional management, they are subject to the worst kinds of job-related abuses. With or without contracts, when bands play they are there being paid to perform and they are the vital part which draws the fans that pay your wages and should be subject to at least fiar treatment. However, the average band that plays First Avenue makes far less than the bare-minimum wage even you get.

Undoubtably, the musical industry, as every other money-making enterprise, is inherenty corruptable and First Avenue is a prime example of the kind of exclusive "old boys club" that the rest of us down. Unless you play their games they'll never let you in. I do not have a problem with the people who work at First Avenue but with the management and bosses in general. If First Avenue is ever to be considered a truly alternative, independent club there are going to have to be radical changes. Equitable pay and fair door prices are just the start. Until then, a little show of solidarity should be considered.

-Troll



Profane Existence:

Just a short letter about Hyzenthlay's review of my zine in PE #11/12. First, to clear up a small error on the reviewer's part, the title is not "No Religion" as stated in the review, but "No Other Way." The issue reviewed was #4. The "No Religion" bit was just a graphic on the mailing label wraparound.

Now onto the reason I'm writing. I want to express my disappointment at the entire tone of the review. Although I didn't expect to recieve the PE Seal of Approval (given the Christian orientation of my zine), I was hoping to get a fair hearing and response—not a vindictive, prejudiced, and hateful diatribe. From the comments in her review, I have doubts that Hyzenthlay even read the zine— it appears that she just gave it a cursory look, saw that it was from a Christian point of view, assumed that it fit into her preconceptions of God and Christianity, and wrote the review based on those preconceptions and not on the content of the zine or the beliefs presented there.

Hyzenthlay isn't the first to tell me that Christianity and anarchism are mutually exclusive, but unfortunately, I don't have any other way to describe my position. I am most certainly a Christian because I worship and serve the Lord Jesus Christ and hold to his teachings (by choice, not by compulsion). My political / non-political / anti-political, anti-authoritarianism, and anti-Statism plants me firmly within the anarchist camp (though I've yet to receive a friendly, open-armed, comradely welcome). My anarchism is not something that I've added to my faith in order to make Jesus more attractive to anarchists. My anarchism flows from my faith in Jesus, and is an inherent, integral part of my Christianity. I did not seek to become an anarchist— I merely sought to be a Christian, and found out I was an anarchist in the process. I admit that my so-called "Christian anarchism" is a different sort of anarchism— with different motivations, different methodology and a different way of looking at things. I have never presented Christianly-motivated anarchism as being identical to other sorts of anarchism. I have always been candid about the similarites and the differences (for example, see "Your Anarchism is Not My Anarchism" in the issue Hyzenthlay reviewed). The beliefs in N.O.W. are not "politically correct" by PE standards, but I'm not overly concerned whether you or anyone else agrees or not (to coin a phrase, "I don't care if my politics offend you.") But if we disagree, let's deal with the issues involved— not in blanket condemnations or name calling. If individuals are to make informed decisions about what to believe or not believe, they should have access to info from all points of view. No Other Way provides an alternative viewpoint to the myth that atheism is a necessary ingredient to an anarchist orientation and to the widespread hostility toward God. Hyzenthlay's review tells the reader little about the zine— only that it's Christian and she hates it (because it's Christian) and she finishes up by giving deceptive impressions about the contents. A negative review by someone who disagrees with my point of view doesn't bother me (Lord knows I've gotten enough of them) but only if such a review is approched fairly and is based on the actual content of the zine and not on the reviewer's misconceptions and misdirected hostiltiy. Hyzenthlay's review fails on both counts.

Finally, I would like to address the charge that I "...have no understanding of the real history of Christianity." Actually, I do, both the events that Hyzenthlay is referring to and a great deal more as well. If ignorance of Christian history is to be assumed, then perhaps it should be in the other direction; not only concerning such things as the Crusades and the Inquisition, but on the original state of Christianity and its anarchism. The anarchist characteristics of early Christianity are no secret, and have been noted by anarchists such as Proudhon and Kroprotkin. Kropotkin stated that "In the Christian movement in Judea... there was unquestioningly much anarchism." He also noted that "The Anabaptist movement of the sixteenth century.. also had an anarchist basis." Had he dug a little deeper, he would have found this "stamp of anarchism" on many Christian groups throughout history. Hyzenthlay should realize that the history of Christianity is not necessarily determined by looking at the actions and records of the mainstream Catholic and Protestant groups. Such groups in large part represent not Christianity, but rather the abandonment of Christianity in favor of what I call "Christianism"— an ideological system using a Christian framework and terminology but that has abandoned or reinterpreted the central teachings of Christianity in order to justify its leaders and self-serving grasp for power. Despite the widespread acceptence of the counterfiet as the real thing, there have always been those who have remained faithful to the truth of the gospel, those who refused to accomodate their faith to the desires of the status quo. In many cases they paid for their refusal to conform with their lives— often by way of a "Christian" sword. Christians who recognize the anarchism of their faith are not taking a new path, but are returning to the true expression of Christianity. Perhaps it is time for Hyzenthlay (and others) to re-examine what they have been told about Christianity... and maybe to re-examine what they beieve about anarchism as well.

Anyway, I'm going to close this off. If your readers would be interested in finding out more about the connection between anarchism and Christianity so they can make their own decision, I'll send reprints of the relevant articles if they provide a stamp. It may be "the WORST kind of propaganda to hit the anarchist community," but then again, it might just be the best. It all depends on your point of view.

God Bless, RIPP c/o The New Christian World Liberation Front / P.O. Box 5072 / Sacramento, CA 95817

Dear Profane Existence;

I was wondering if you could print this letter. I'm Spike of the N.E.A.F. I'm a 25 year old punk. And the most heinous thing happened in Woonsocket, Rhode Island on Nov. 14, 1991. It seems my cousin Howard E. Thompson was murdered by two or more people in an alleyway between two condemed buildings and thrown from there to an asphalt lot about 50 feet below. The police decided to try to write it off as a "Homeless person Suicide." Howard wasn't homeless or suicidal. He was an ex-crackhead, and he was conciderably slow because of an eating disorder as an infant. Howard was 25 and he was easily swayed when people tried to persuade him to do things because he had a mental compacity of a nine year old child. He had a tendency to freeze when he was cornered and he often allowed people to pummel him without even trying to defend himself.

The police put in the "local paper" that Howard died of an accidental or suicide situation, and Howard supposedly fell or jumped off a roof into an asphallt lot — death was caused by multipal traumas to the head. Does that sound like a suicide or a beating to you?

When Howard kicked drugs, he still owed money to a dealer ($180.00). Howard expressed concern to our family about this. He also got a death threat from the guy. A person reported to the police the day after the murder that she saw two men chasing Howard down that very alley he got murdered in. The police ignored her. I found blood on the right side of the building next to his gum bag. The cops ignored that, and he supposedly jumped off the back of the building.

His body was found face down with both hands in front of him as if he was sleeping. If someone jumped from that height, his hands would be out as if trying to break the fall and both of his knees would be broken also.

The Woonsocket police have a history of coverups. Three other homeless suicides have been reported within weeks of Howard's murder, and there was a murder ten years ago that the police covered-up because it was the Leutenit's son that commited the murder. As I always said, there are no good cops.

E + A = Peace, Spike Fikter / P.O. Box 1183 / Webster, MA 01570

The follow letter had to be edited due to space reasons (i.e. - it was way long, man)-typos

Friends:

Thanks for the most recent issue of *P.E.*, and all the extras inside.

Tom Scut's letter on getting nicked in Jackson, Tennessee was sad to read. Because I've grown up in the South, I think I've developed natural defenses against getting in trouble with the authorities, because I've never had that sort of experience and none of my friends have. Yet when I did my interview with V. Vale of *Re/Search* (which ended up in *OVO* #12), he said that he would never come to the South again because the same thing happened to him: he and his friends got pulled over basically because they had California tags on their car and they had to choose between a few nights in jail or paying a bribe to go home. For what it's worth, I will provide safe passage to any anarchist travelling through East Tennessee. I also wanted to add that I was very glad that Tom decided not to attribute his and Kim's experience to Southern redneck cops. They exist, to be sure, and are as bad as you've imagined, but Tom correctly said a cop is a cop no matter where they are. I've experience no small amount of discrimination as a Southerner (among anarchists as much as anyone else) and it was good that Tom didn't feed the bias most people have against the South.

Criterion T.'s words on coming out was the best piece in the whole magazine. It had to do with the re-invention of everyday life, and isn't that the revolutionary project in a nutshell? Except rather than waiting for the Big R to come and make everything better, C.T. made a change in his own life. Practiced autonomy made a responsible / pleasurable decision, all those radical things. And even better, he didn't bury this eruption of the marvelous in jargon (as I hope I haven't here). I hope to see more by him in the future. Jackie Weltman's interview was equally wonderful: a human making choices, changing, and erasing the line between theory and practice to discover real life underneath the division.

C.T.'s piece was a lot more real than the rest of that issue's street-fighting reports combined. I view your fuck-shit-up coverage (and that of *Love & Rage*) basically as anarchist pornography. In regular pornography, bodies are removed from the context of their lives and presented as "sexual." All sorts of people — kind ones and cruel ones, smart ones and dull ones, sexual and uninterested, exploited and willing — have posed for pornographers. But no matter who they are or why they're posing, by meeting certain fetishistic stipulations (stipulations that may have nothing to do with "sex," such as nakedness or body position) the image is transformed from a photograph of a person (who may be bored, or scared, or amused, etc.) to a "sexual" image. It's the same with the street-fighting photos and reports in your magazine. There is no context to what is presented: it is assumed that no matter what, anybody with a funny haircut knocking anybody with a badge is a positive image, a revolutionary image, an inspirational image. No matter if that funny haircut also beats his or her lover, or acted out of despair rather than passion, or is a wonderful person, or was just passing though town, etc. The humans in the picture are reduced to symbols, exactly as pornography. They might be different symbols and have different implications but the process of reducing human experience to coded messages is the same. The symbols of "protestant" and "cop" are more real than the humans involved, who may in fact switch roles later on.

So what is to be done? I'd say first to recognize this objectification for what it is. Second, decide how useful it is to your project (and your life) and how in accordance it is with your "politics" (again, your life). I've found pleasure in memorabilia relating to my lovers when they were thousands of miles away, and I've found inspiration in photos of scuffles I've been in here and there, so I don't advocate doing away with all representations. I would encourage the use of representations a little closer to real life than a puppet show of The Anarchist vs. The Cop, where the role-mask is the same no matter who wears it. Similarly, I'd much rather see "sexual" representations of my friends and lovers (and myself) than strangers, and those representations would only be an occassional suppiement for the real thing.

Reliance on representations and roles leads to shameful works like page 39. The statement, "The golf course is one of the most despicable examples of human (especially rich human) domination over nature..." SHOULD be a joke but I'm afraid it isn't. People who shoot other people because they play a sport are not the sort of people I'd want to have anything to do with at all. And making a joke of the death of a person killed by lightning in Carmel is insensitive and removes much credibility from your magazine. That was somebody's child, maybe somebody's lover, maybe somebody's parent, and if it were you or yours I doubt you would have been so uncaring as to print that photo and caption.

You know, it seems pretty unlikely that your or I or, say, Ben Weasel, will ever be reincarnated as someone significantly different from us, so we'll know whether we were fair or judgmental, generalizing or respectful. I'm a white man and that's all I'll ever know much about. But there is one "class" many of us will make a shift between, and that's "youth culture" to "old." I think a lot of statements made by "youth" will look pretty darn embarrassing when those youth wear the shoes of "old" people. Thinking 45 is old and that most 45 year olds are "pretty much assholes" betrays a vary narrow circle of friends and experiences on Ben's part, I'd say. Would that statement have gone unquestioned if the group so maligned were something other than "old" people, like maybe "white" people or "female" people?

Excessive drinking has killed dead the anarchist community in Knoxville, so it touches a sore spot to read glorifications of drinking in the Anarchist press. I hope you have better luck than we did here.

Take care and write soon,

Trevor / P.O. Box 23061 / Knoxville, TN 37933-1061

Dear Friends,

We of *Bayou La Rose* are looking for information on resistance to the celebrations of Columbus. What we are looking for is articles, flyers, posters, artwork, information on events and contacts. As many of you already know *Bayou La Rose*, (in its 13th year of publication), is an ecological anti-authoritarian human rights publication with an international readership. Some of our readers in France and Spain have written to us asking for information on the resistance to the celebration. Because of this and other reasons, we are going to focus next years' issues on the resistance. Our next issue, (we hope to have out right after the first of the year) will have articles on why there is a resistance to the celebration, planned events, and contacts. The issue after that will be our next "SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE ISSUE" which we hope will be useful to the resistance.

So please send us whatever you can, like articles, newspaper clippings, press releases, flyers, artwork, statements, posters, tapes, and information on upcoming events so that our coverage will be as complete as possible.

We wish to approach this with the view that history did not stop and the struggles of today are part of the struggles of the last 500 years. Thus information about ongoing stuggles would also be very useful.

And last, we wish to remind folks that if they want to be listed in the resource issue they need to send us information to be listed.

REMEMBER! We are a newspaper; don't send us information that you don't want to see in print. Thank-you.

In Solidarity, Arthur J. Miller / *Bayou La Rose* / 302 N. J St. Apt. #3 / Tacoma, WA 98403

NOTICE OF NON-DELIVERY OF MAIL:
Austin, Dale #76660 / G.B.C.I. / Box 19033 / Green Bay, WI 54307
Sender: *Profane Existence* Newspaper
Reason for non-delivery: Publication teaches or advocates violence and presents a clear and present danger to the institution security. 1 *Profane Existence* Newspaper
Signature of Institution Staff member: F.C. Larah, 12-17-91

Hey folks...

Rusty from Ceasefire Productions here. Got a new project here that I'm working on and I was wondering if I could get some assistance.

I'm in the process of setting up a tour for the DETONATORS from Oregon. The tour will be taking place through March and April of 1992 and it's going to coincide with the release of their new album. We're trying to plan the tour around the election primaries.

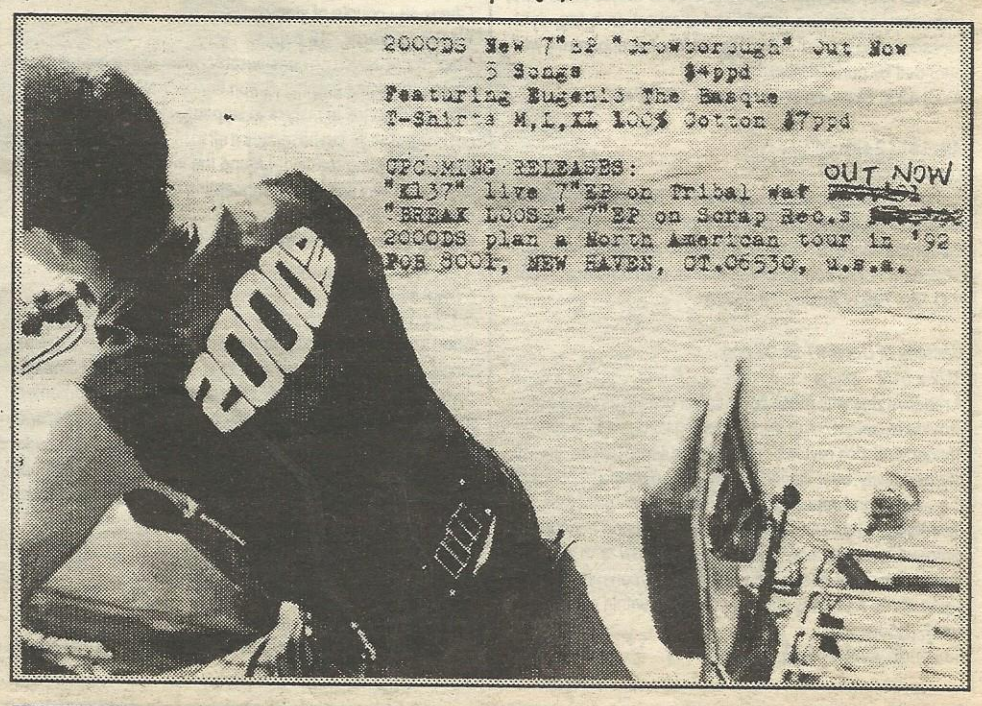
We want the tour to be an awareness-raiser in relation to the upcoming elections. We're in the process of contacting bands, zines, record labels, and action groups. Most of the shows we want to play are to be held in conjunction with demonstrations, rallies, workshops, etc. that have to do with the election. Our goal is to play most American cities at approximately the same time as the primary for that state is held.

Most of us have been regular *Profane Existence* readers for a few years now, and I personally have a lot of repect for the work you're doing. Will you be doing something in relation to the primaries and if so can we be a part of it? Also, the DETONATORS are looking for a label to release their new record on, and we'd appreciate any assistance you could offer.

So there it is. If you'd like to give us a hand, please get a hold of us.

Thanks,

Rusty / Ceasefire Productions / Box 51, 1405 - 17 Ave. S.W. / Calgary, Alberta / Canada T2T OC6



ZINE REVIEWS

Due to lack of space, postage costs, and the desire to preserve our collective sanity, we have decided to not review every zine we receive from now on. Instead, we will limit our zine reviews to about one hundred of the most interesting and pertinent publications we receive. The same principle will apply to our noise reviews. So, if you don't see your publication reviewed here and you didn't receive a trade copy, we apologize.

A Breath of Fresh Air #1
5 1/2" x 8 1/2" - offset - 32 pages
A cool little zine which focuses on more everyday things than your average punk / anarcho zine. The contents are mostly comprised of interviews such as the likes of Class War, an Unemployment Centre worker, football fan, etc. all presented with a class-struggle revolutionary bent. The whole thing is in a quite readable format and cartoons here and there kept a steady flow of giggles all along the way. The Jesus bit was whacked: Jesus and anarchy—an oxymoron? (Troll)
Dave / Box 8 / 190 Alum Rock Rd. / Saltley, Birmingham / U.K.

Adversity #6 / $1 ppd.
8 1/2 x 11 1/2 - copied - 30 pages
Positively petal licking, lots o' bands: MEDIA CHILDREN, ENT, EOW, TASTE OF FEAR, DESTROY, FILTH and those boys I wouldn't mind licking from tongue to groove, BORN AGAINST. Plummeting poetry, saucy scene reports, ravaging reviews. Sexy. (tod)
PO Box 1751 / Torrington, CT 06790

Alien Relay #3 / $1 ppd.
8 1/2 x 11 - xerox - 24 pages
Cyberpunk is the name of the game here, kiddies. I like this zine because they seem to know what they want to cover and because they do a lot of different things with the whole cyber-thang. Included in this issue are a couple interviews, some really cool graphix, record, zine and game reviews and some fiction and poetry. A fun-filled zine with a nice touch of chaos! (Criterion T.)
38317 Sunset Dr. / Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Agony #1 / $3 ppd.
7 x 8 1/2 - xerox - 44 pages
This mag was easily the most popular zine around my pad for a couple weeks. Bill plagiarizes a ton of material and tosses in a few of his own opinions and comes up with one hella entertaining queer zine. Three bux is a little steep, but I laughed out loud enough to recommend this little turd. (Criterion T.)
1805 E. Lafayette Pl. / Milwaukee, WI 53202

Anarchy - A Journal of Desire Armed #30 / $2 ppd
10 1/2 x 14 1/2 - offset - 36 pages
Always interesting, always intellectual and always a staple as far as U.S. anarchist contact listings go... Issue thirty contains pieces on "The Rebellion that Never had a Chance" (Soviet coup d'état), "The Catastrophe of Postmodernism," and "Technology and Its Mediated Use." Also loads of reviews of anti-authoritarian and alternative books and magazines and some great artwork in the form of collages. Highly recommended. (Newt)
P.O. Box 1446 / Columbia, MO 65205-1446

Angry Thoreauan #1 / $1.50
8 1/2 x 11 - newsprint - 28 pages
Formerly *The Happy Thrasher*. I like the old name better : how are da punx supposed to pronounce T-h-o-r-e-a-u-a-n? A well-done deal with tons o' reviews. They speak briefly with Jughead's Revenge. Some interesting anti-pig stories, too. Well, next time you're in Southern California pick it up. (Sluggo)
Tin-ear / c/o WWMU / P.O.Box 2246 / Anaslime, CA 92814

Another Pair of Shoes #7 / $1.00 ppd
51/2 x 8 1/2 copied - 48pgs
This zine's getting big! Wow!! This issue features an in depth intv. w/ Tim Yohannon (MRR), intv with Bloodline and a well thought out piece about violence, a bit about the special olympics, poetry, reviews and more! There's a cool drawing for a t-shirt idea. It shows a U.S. flag on fire and says, "Try and burn this one redneck." This zine is cool and totally D.I.Y., so check it out sometime. The only thing I don't like is those damn white boy comics. YUK! (K)
A.P.O.S. / P.O. Box 300031 / Mpls, MN 55403

Anti-Authority #1 / 2 stamps
8 1/2 x 11 - xerox - 18 pp.
Punk as fuck zine with Nausea and Total Chaos interviews, veganism, anarchism, comix and a report on a fag, dyke, crossdressing festival in Chicago which was apparently well-attended by punx. (Felix)
AYC, 4336 Byesville Blvd / Dayton, OH 45431

Atlatl #1 / 2 stamps?
xerox - 8 pp.
A short "journal of chronic subversion." This issue consists of on article on the secret war aims of the U.S in the Gulf, a thoughtful anarchist critique of the anti-war movement, anti-"welcome home troops" demo and an opinion piece. (Felix)
P.O.Box 7962 / Austin, TX 78713

Bacteria of Decay#7 $1.00 ppd
81/2 x 51/2 - 28pgs
A reactive zine with much potential for growth as contributors provide excellent cover art, interesting layout, and numerous concert and zine reviews. However, in some pieces, insecurity, negativity, overwinded lamenations over the hypocrisy in the scene, and repeated reference to male genetelia and distracting. Staff seems open to feedback and encourages dialogue with readers. Revealing interview with Agnostic Front. Definitely check out the scheming conspiracy of the squirrells as it unfolds into the putrid evil within comes foreward. (Dodi)
63 Lenox Ave / Buffalo, NY 14226

Bandit, Christ is a Sausage and *Stinky's Wet Spots* #1 / free
7 x 8 1/2 - xerox - 16 pages each
Three zines that are all basically the same. They are all formerly the one before. They have either reprinted or regurgitated articles on political (war, freedom, etc.) subjects stuck in with other various annoying layout stuff. But hey, they're free! (Sluggo)
Box 181 / 2440 16th St. / San Francisco, CA 94103

Bayou La Rose #36 / $1.50 ppd
11 3/8 x 17 3/8 - newspaper - 16 pages
Shorter than their usual issue (normally 44 pages), this time around the staff opted for a short format in order to afford a giant mailing of sample copies. Not as much content as usual; this issue has anti-authoritarian pieces on the Old and New World Order, a news update on the trial of Leonard Peltier, plus loads of notes on groups of resistance. (Newt)
302 N 'J' St. #3 / Tacoma, WA 98403

Ben is Dead #15 / $2ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 56 pages
The best zine from L.A. Flip through the way-too-many ads (but hey, they pay the bills, I know) and go straight to the excellent Nation of Ulysses interview, one of the most pissed (and therefore one of the best) bands in America right now. Then proceed to the chat with the very cool band Blister. Skip the Hole and Church of War interviews as well as the far-too-LAish record reviews (but be sure to read the revenge tips scattered here and there). Check out I.P. Freely's original and funny "anti-demo column" and the rest o' the mag, then you may return to the real world. Great Pettibon-ish cover art, too. (joel)
PO Box 3166 / Hollywood, CA / 90028

Blue Ryder #21 / $2.25 or $10/6 issues
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 40 pages
Blue Ryder acts as a sort of *Utne Reader* of the more alternative press, reprinting articles from various underground mags. In this issue there's good stuff on the FBI and the Black Panthers, methodone, brief snippets, cartoons, fiction, and all sorts of good stuff. A bit of focus would help (say, themes for each issue), but overall there is some solid reading here. Who wrote that great "Stone Your TV" piece? (joel)
PO Box 587 / Olean, NY / 14760

Bundle of Sticks #3 / $2 ppd.
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - offset - 32 pages
Don't get me wrong, I don't hate this zine, I think it's important and I think it can be very useful. I have so many fucking gripes, though. I don't care if it's about preference or what some people like and what some people don't like. BOS is a queer sex zine, lots of oversized throbbing penises (furthering an already phallic worshipping culture, something that we definitely don't need), lots of painful sadomasochistic images. I've been hurt by this shit I don't care what's done within peoples own lives but pushing shit like S&M isn't so hot when you're dealing with frustrated dykes (although this zine is totally male centered) and fags who are looking for a way to make everything alright in a society that oppresses the fuck out of them. There are a lot of good things here and i've read the fucking thing from cover to cover and I know a lot of the content may be "just to stir up shit" but sometimes a lot of people get hurt by it that shouldn't necessarily be getting hurt. Fuck, I don't know, get it and question it as you should everything. I don't think Teg is out to fuck things up for people and this zine does do a lot of good for a lot of people and the whole thing isn't just about sex. Queer and frustrated argh. (tod)
54 South 9th St., Suite # 132 / Minneapolis, MN 55402

Buttrag #1 / $1.50 ppd.
xerox - 22 pp.
Another punk as fuck zine, this has interviews with Public Nuisance, Seizure, Jesus Chrust, Bad Dream House and The Doughboys. Read it while drinking and pretend you're hanging out in NYC. (Felix)
Kendall Craig, P.O.Box 2368, Peter Stuy. St., NY,NY 10009

Chaos #3 / couple of stamps
8 1/2 x 11- xerox - 12 pages
Steph's zine is getting considerably better with the addition of some pretty cool graphix. Steph concentrates on explaining different theories of magick to laypeople like us. I really don't get into the stuff, but he relates it all to his life and it makes for some interesting reading. I found the interviews with my old roomies, Kathy and Laura, concerning relationships to be the most interesting. Keep groovin', Steph!
636 Langdon St. / Madison, WI 53703 (Criterion T.)

Choke #1 / SASE
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 6 pages
Short and sweet and pleasant enough to read, but being only single-sided, a lot of space is wasted. A letter from a complete screwball starts out this little zine/newsletter, complemented in the following pages by an anti-cop rant, a few reviews, and a very true opinion piece on the "dolphin-free tuna" scam: "saving the dolphins" but eating the tuna is still fucked up. This could use a bit more work, but for a stamp ya' cant' lose. (joel)
PO Box 267 / Otisville, MI / 48463

Celeste's Scream $1 ppd.
5 1/2 x 8 1/2, xerox, 24 pages
The subtitle "Various thoughts in written form" pretty much sums up what Ani's first issue is all about. I found Ani's zine to be groovy because it gave me some good insight into the mind of a fifteen-year old. Hope she keeps up the good work 'cause this has a lot of potential. (Criterion T.)
P.O.Box 80314 / Goleta, CA 93118

Class War #50 / $2 ppd
11 x 17 - offset - 24 pages
This is a tabloid, but it ain't no *National Enquirer*. Britain's most famous anarchist rag hits its big 50th issue and to celebrate there are eight added pages of slams, slander, sauce, and sense, including an informative piece that reflects on the accomplishments of the Class War Federation and the tabloid since its inception. A lot of people can't figure out why we would bother printing *Class War* in the U.S. when it's such a Britain-centered paper and because the class situation is so much different there than here. We agree, but because there is such a dearth of anarchist or punk publications in this country with any sort of class analysis, anything that discusses this important subject at a common sense level is worth a read. Hopefully it will inspire a renewed debate about class relations in North America. Plus, it's a damn funny read no matter where you're from. (joel)
PO Box 8722 / Minneapolis, MN 55408

The Cosmic Needle #1 / 75¢ ppd
81/2 x 51/2 - copied - 22 pages
I hate to sound condescending, but "it's a start." I remember when first exploring the realm of fanzines, I used to like this type. Short and simple, but after being spoiled by technologically induced complex (?) zines, I find this a bit dry and lacking substance. Good provacative columns, however provides room to agree and agree to differ. Features ECONO-CHRIST, Rollins and LUNACHICKS. (Hyz.)
C.N. c/o Matt Turner / P.O. Box 13632 / Charlotte, N.C. 28270

Cybervision #1 / $1.50 ppd.
8 1/2 x 11- xeroxed - 20 pp.
From right across the river in St. Paul comes one of my recent favorites. This zine has some thoughts on America as a "Daydream Nation," a banned story by J.D. Salinger, tons of cool scams (free phone calls, food, records and postage) and best of all punk as fuck fashion tips, not the least of which is how to electrify the studs on your jacket making yourself into a walking stun gun! Punk as fuck. (Felix)
P.O.Box 65855 / St. Paul, MN 55165

Damnation #1 / $1 ppd.
offset? - 14 pp.
Articles on anarchism, freedom from slavery, the abolition of statism and an interesting piece on laissez-faire vs. collectivist economics. Also record reviews and short fiction. Very well done. (Felix)
P.O.Box 3902 / Myrtle Beach, SC 29578

Deepsix Superstition #2
51/2 x 81/2 - 34 pages
Wow, a real look at things. Powerful and emotional. This zine really clarifies the stronghold that consumerism and advertising has on us. This zine is here to bloodlet the body of capitalism. Not only does this take a stab at the consumer and products and how they affect the lives of children and adults, but it is done in a wonderfully sarcastic manner. There is also a strong anti-church sentiment with superb comix. Recommended. (Hyz.)
P.O.Box 391 / Hampshire College / Amherst, MA 01002 (The zine that says "Fuck You" with a polite look and a bashful grin)

Dissolution #2 / 3 stamps
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 16 pages
Great cover, I wonder where they got it. This is a nice, upbeat, idealistic zine. There are some very informative, researched, and easy-to-read articles on pesticides in produce, preserving California wildlife, and other smaller snippets. The layout is messy but friendly, though I hope they find a typewriter for future issues. For free, this is definitely a winner, so dig in. (joel)
3806 S. Flower St. #A / Santa Ana, CA / 92707

Ear Noises #6 / 2 stamps
7 x 8 1/2 - copied - 20 pages
A rather strange local offering. I liked some of the local tidbits ("What would you change about downtown Minneapolis?"), a couple of the tag-team reviews and the Surrealist Occupational Index, but some of the other stuff reviewed and mentioned was kind of cryptic. Interviews with Arc Welder and John Bartles also included, plus lots of weird drawings in the margins. (joel)
PO Box 80572 / Minneapolis, MN / 55408

Ecce Queer #1 / $2 ppd.
8 1/2 x 11- offset - 28 pages
This Seattle queer zine is off to a good start. Unlike most queer zines which tend to center on the personal or the sexual, this one focuses primarily on activism. Highlights inside include two activists writing about the future of activism, a reprinting of the SMUT manifesto (it fucking rules!) and some great pictures from some ACT-UP-looking protest. Hopefully we'll be seeing more zines like this in the days to come.
1925 8th Ave. Floor 2 / Seattle, WA 98101 (Criterion T.)

The Ely Firefly #11 / $5 for 6 issues
81/2x 11 - offset - 8 pgs
This is a small zine / publication from Ely, (north Minnesota) MN. Very impressive for coming from a small town. It's got features on recycling, a story about Agnes Smedley, some letters, a "Dear Abby" type column called Ask Ingrid, your grandma in Ely, plus more. This zine has a real small town feel to it, but interesting. (K)
413 N. 10th Ave E. / Ely, MN 55732

Flower #? / doughnation (free)
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - xerox - 32 pages
Twenty-seven poems about feelings, my heart, my love, blah, blah, blah. Some boy kissing girl drawings plus seven ads. Reminds me of a '60's college student poetry final. Oh yeah, there's a cartoon that goes on fer four pages and consists of this stick figure thing getting this hole blown through him or something. (Sluggo)
302 Laurie Ct. / Stillwater, MN 55082

Free Society $5/3 issues
This is primarily the discussion journal of the Youth Greens put out by the local AWOL group. The first issue has a lot of discussion on the direction of the movement and what it stands for. There are a lot of good statements made with a lot of thought put into backing up the theory. If you are looking for a good source of new anarchist political thought and would like to peer in some of the debates within the Youth greens movement you have no better source than right here. (Troll)
Youth Greens / P.O. Box 7293 / Minneapolis, MN 55407

Friction Quasi-Quarterly Vol. 3 #3 / $8/4 issues
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 12 pages
A really well-edited and assembled collection of short stories comprises this effort, and a nice effort it is. The introductions are a bit too fluffy and extraneous, but the stories themselves are quite good. "The Wine Cellar" is particularly excellent and it gives folx yet another reason to hate rich people. "Early Out in Ohio" has a great storyline: a guy who goes straight from law school to retirement in an old-folx community and just watches TV all day. My only complaint about this publication would be that the fancy paper and red ink make for squinty reading in mediocre light, but that's not enough to deter me from strongly recommending this to all fiction freaks—writers and readers alike. (joel)
Wampus Productions / 6130 Calico Pool Lane / Burke, VA / 22015

God's Own Music #2
8 1/2" x 11" - copied - 44 pages
A pretty thick zine bringing the world of punk rock to South Australia and vice versa. Interviews abound including NECROCEDIA, KLTURAL KOMPOST, CELIBATE COMMANDOS with the rest dedicated to animal liberation, anti-gulf war and anarchist articles. It's cool to see that there's others so far distant who feel the same as we do here. Send these folx a couple bux and a nice letter as they're screaming for international contacts and contributions. (Troll)
P.O. Box 68 / Ebwardston 5039 / South Australia / Australia

Holy Titclamps #9 / $2
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - offset - 36 pages
This is one of the most well-organized small zines coming out on a regular basis these days. On top of that it's queer as fuck! Larry-Bob compiles a ton of cool graphix, stories and poetry all with a heavy queer-punk bent. There's also six pages of homopunk zine reviews which just blows me away. My only complaint (as with many homopunk zines) is the plethora of muscle-bound unpunk men with HUGE, throbbing penises which only seems to re-emphasize the mainstream gay view on sex. I don't know... it just seems wierd that in the middle of some really cutting-edge material I still come across pictures right out of some homo-porn mag. I don't see the zine's sexual content as oppressive (playful describes it better), just inconsistent with the rest of the contents. Let's at least see some skinny punx covered in tofu with prison tattoos all over 'em! Nevertheless, I dig this zine a lot. (Criterion T.)
c/o Larry-Bob / P.O.box 3054 / Minneapolis, MN 55403

Keloid #2 /
8 1/2" x 11" - offset - 20 pages
A pretty darn good new zine which seems heavily influenced by *Dear Jesus* and perhaps *No Answers* zines. Interesting articles critical of religion and the Gulf War particularly in respect to civilian impact. Also, an interview with DOWNCAST and other odds and ends. (Troll)
Adam / 9331 Raintree Dr. / Burke, VA 22015 (or) Matt / 1822 Floyd Ave. / Richmond, VA 23220

Liberate the Obsessed #4 / 50¢
5 1/2" x 8 1/2" - copied - 12 pages
Another good issue of this pocket-sized zine. This is more of a personal gripe issue (intentionally or not I'm not sure). Has the inevitable "Downtown Report" and all the usual goodies. (Troll)
609 Summit St. / Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Love and Rage $9/year
Tabloid - 24 pages
Coming closer each issue to a true pan-North American anarchist newspaper. *Love and Rage* are now starting to get the support and group interaction necessary bring such a project together. The content is now a lot more varied and representative of the broad movement it covers and seem more open to other ideas than the narrow path they started on. Most importantly they have more news and less patronizing intellectual masturbation. Worth getting and supporting now more than ever. (Troll)
P.O. Box 3 / Prince St. Stn. / New York, NY 10012

Mongolian Bikers From North African Korea #2 / 50¢ and 2 stamps
81/2 x 11 - 14 pgs
First of all, this zine is printed only on the front-sides of the paper, leaving the backside blank. I don't know why, but it's a waste!! There's stuff on strolling through the woods (which is well written), the humane society, art, reviews and a little more. (K)
3570 ST. Johns Lane, suite 102-228 / Elliot City, MD 21043

No Exit #4
8 1/2 x 11 - copied - 34 pages
A somewhat interesting mix of youthful energy, intelligence, boorishness and arrogance. I like Alejandro's writing and some of the Simple Machines interview (though a bit of editing would have made it a lot more interesting), but the Circus Lupus interview was boring as hell. Worse, the writing by Rev. John is pompous and self-righteous. For example, after paying $35 *(thirty-five-dollars)* to a "hippie scalper dude" to get into the musical farce of 1991 — Lolapolooza — he then has the audacity to snicker and criticize everyone else there, as if he was the only cool person present (which is exactly

what everyone else there thought, too, I'm sure). A little growing up and a little editing could make this a cool zine, but it's not there yet. (joel)
Alejandro / PO Box 391 / Hampshire College / Amherst, MA / 01002

No KKK No Fascist USA / Summer/Fall '91 / $1.00 ppd.
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 24 pages
John Brown Anti-Klan Committee newspaper. Way important articles on the LAPD, Geronimo Pratt, the gulf war and racism, and more info about racist organizing in law enforcement. A useful paper for anti-racist organizing not to mention a beautiful reinforcement for justification of a good nazi bashing. (tod)
220 9th St. / #443 / S.F., CA 94103

Officer Friendly #1 / 5 cents plus two stamps
xeroxed, 8 pp.
This small zine features an interview with RESIST, opinions on anarchism, anti-smoking and anti-vivisection flyers. (Felix)
P.O.Box 471631 / Charlotte, NC 28247

Plumber's Butt #2
offset - 40 pp.
A humorous and thoughtful zine that is jam-packed with reviews galore, a Born Against interview, hilarious stories, serious stories, serious opinions, side-splitting advertisement spoofs (sea punkeys, Henry Rollins can make you a man, etc.) Some of the best punk humor I've ever seen, but still comes off as serious and concerned. Cool as shit. (Felix)
Garneau Hall Room237 / Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Pulp #6 / $1.69 ppd.
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 48 pages
Dyno-mite! A fab zine from Olympia, WA which contains mostly interesting and personal stories from around Olympia. Interviews with Kalvin Johnson and some other Olympian types. If yer into the K Records and such then this will certainly interest ya. If not, then why not? Get this, you silly goose! (Sluggo)
P.O.Box 1504 / Olympia, WA 98507

Primary Concern #7 / $1.50 ppd.
7 x 8 1/2 - offset - 48 pages
This is Marc's final issue and judging from the contents he just doesn't seem to be into it as in the past. Nevertheless, Marc's slightly cynical wit and great writing style really make the reviews and columns come alive. There's also a really good interview with Victim's Family. Not as good as it used to be, but still highly recommended. I'm gonna miss this zine... (Criterion T.)
234 Lloyd Ln. / Wynnewood, PA 19096

Raw / Idea / trade or a couple stamps
This is the best thing i got to review i opened it up it fell all over the place i had to match up what went together and it didn't matter, lots of shit recopied from ACT UP, some shit from Heat Seeker, red hot altered comix. Pics of grafitti, reviews, graphics. A way strong bash in the face for homophobes. This thing is fucking beautiful. Get it. Realize your desires. (tod)
Nicholas Penalosox / 435 W. Delavan / Buffalo, NY 14213

Reality Sandwich #18 / .75 ppd.
offset - 8 pp.
At it again, the anarchist equivalent of the *Weekly World News* digs up the dirt on the second coming of Christ (in the guise of Pee-Wee Herman), monopoly and the Soviet coup and the Satanic control of television. Always outrageous. (Felix)
P.O.Box 2092 / Baltimore, MD 21203

Ripping Thrash #6 / $2 ppd.
offset, 32 pages
This zine includes interviews with G-Anx, Citizens Arrest, No Fraud, Antidrasi, Toxic Thrash, Squales and Identity. Also Mexican and French scene reports, opinions and reviews. (Felix)
Steve / 25 Elms Rd. / Stapenhill / Burton on Trent / Staffs, DE15 9AQ / ENGLAND

Sabotaje #9, 10 / price-??
91/2 x 11 - offset - 56pgs(#9), 68 pgs (#10)
This is all written in Spanish, so I couldn't read it. Damn. It looks like one fucking excellent anarchist publicaton. I think #9 and 10 are one year apart from each other. Theres a heavy radical Anarchist feel to this, which I like. Hopefully I'll learn some Spanish soon. If you can read spanish, get this today. (K) The price says 250 ptas, so send adequete $$ to:
Apdo. 17.140 / 28,000 Madrid, Spain

Schiz-Flux / Smile / Snicker #6
offset - 42 pp.
Schizoid situationism at its finest. Various pieces on the repressive aspects of society and questioning of reality as we know it. Most of it was too thick for me except for an informative article on the Mexican peasant movement. Recommended for those into *Anarchy, Fifth Estate* and situationism. (Felix)
P.O.Box 3205, Madison, WI 53704

Sole Vibration #1 / 50¢ ppd.
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - xerox - 32 pages
Funk-ayy! Dr. Funky keeps those smooth '70's alive with a funky lesson revealing the secrets of the disco state o' mind. Funky horoscopes, CHiPs / Charlie's Angels reports, funky fashion tips, plus a tribute to Parliament! This zine is bootyful, but it's too bad Dr. Funky won't be around to do it much longer - I heard the Oakland Disco Squad is after him for calling the East Bay "totally funkless."
John / 916 Margaret St. / St. Paul, MN 55106

Soulless Structures #4 / $2 ppd.
xerox - 28 pp.
This zine contains interviews with *Profane Existence* and Holocaust and a lot of articles on such topics as rape, education, violence in popular culture, inspiration for creative action, anti-racism and nazi skinheads. Also opinions, reviews and vegetarian recipes. Well done and worth checking out. (Felix)
550 Pinewood Dr. / Pendleton, SC 29670

Stark Reality #8 / $1 ppd.
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 - xerox - 28 pages
Zak got busted while trippin' attempting to break into laundry change machines with my old roommate. That about sums up the contents of his zine. Take a bunch of personal ramblings in a Cometbus style and place it all in a shithole like Milwaukee and you have a good idea of what this is like. A good read while sittin' on the toilet taking a long hungover poop. (Criterion T.)
1206 Monroe Ave. / So. Milwaukee, WI 53172

Telegraph Avenue Street Calendar 1992 / $8 ppd
8 1/2 x 11 - offset - 12 months
This is a really cool idea. Ace Backwords, love him or hate him, has assembled a collection of photos of Berkeley's colorful street folk and turned it into a calendar. Not patronizing in the slightest, the photos are generally really cool (especially the Hate Man, a homeless philosopher, verbally battling street-preaching Christians) and the calendar takes care to note not only MLK's birthday, Xmas, and the usual calendar fare, but also the Berkeley Inn arson fire (March 1), the day Ace lost his virginity (March 24), the day John Lennon bought it (Dec. 8) and other Berkeley/hippie-dippie benchmarks. At $8 ppd it's a bit pricey for punks and way pricey for homeless folx, but this calendar is sure to be a big hit with chic yuppie/student types. I'm way glad I got a free copy, but if I had to pay I'd only shell out $3 tops. (joel)
1630 University Ave. #26 / Berkeley, CA / 94703

Three Dollar Bill #2 / $2 ppd.
7 x 8 1/2 - offset - 44 pages
From the ashes of *Homocore* comes Deke's new zine and I'm findin' it mighty cool. The best parts of issue 2 were Deke's article on the constitution, a story on how Gay Pride Week was started and another article by Deke on life and death and AIDS. I found everything in this issue to be interesting and read it from cover to cover. I wish more zines included well-written political commentary like the stuff here! (Criterion T.)
P.O.Box 190176 / San Francisco, CA 94119-0176

Turning the Tide, anti-racism newsletter / donation
8 1/2 x 11/ xerox / 8 pp.
This is one of the best informational newsletters put out by an anti-racist action group that I've seen in a long time. Most of the news is centered in California where the newsletter is published. Lengthy articles on "Bo" Gritz, Tom Metzger, David Duke and racist police brutality. Worthy reading. (Hyzen)
People Against Racist Terror, P.O.Box 1990, Burbank, CA 91507

Vomit Blood #1 / 2 stamps
xerox - 12 pp.
A short but punk as fuck zine with articles on diapers (cloth vs. disposable vs. biodegradable) , Thanksgiving, war, animal rights and the awkwardness of being bi, gay or lesbian in the the scene. (Felix)
P.O.Box 684 / Mankato, MN 56002

Whatever....#2 / 2 stamps
half legal - copied - 20 pages
Jeff (ex-DEMISE) gives his thoughts and feelings anarchism, hermitism and hardlinism. A poetry section that includes FILTH and DESTROY! Interviews with NAKED AGGRESSION & ALL YOU CAN EAT, reviews and free ads. A groovy heartfelt zine and it's free so get it or fuck off. (tod)
Jeff / 539 W. Doty St. / Madison, WI 53703

Windchill Factor #3 $15/10 issues
8 1/2" x 11" - copied - 28 pages
Let's hear it for another anarcho zine with a free local circulation! (if you happen to live in Chicago that is!!) This magazine kicks the system's ass with venomous spirit as well as a well-deserved re-buff to the RCP, a round-up of news from Chicago's underside, direct action tips for that rebellious satisfaction and a lot more. I like this line "A message to men against abortion: Give up fucking, fuck off and die. You're the best argument for abortion there is." (Troll)
P.O. Box 81961 / Chicago, IL 60681

BOOK REVIEWS

Barbecue
by Marc Fischer
$2.00 postage paid
Primary Concern / 234 Lloyd Lane / Wynnewood, PA 19096
Yet another journal from Mr. Fischer (Marc's last book, *Monitor of Human Performance*, was also a journal)... *Barbecue* is a collection of computer entries of interesting events during the course of Febuary 8, 1991 to July 31, 1991. Pretty interesting material, including bus rides, mentally ill people and random thoughts about Marc's environment. Pretty interesting as Marc's writting style flows and captures the reader long enough to read the entire book in one sitting. D.I.Y. printing, too. (Newt)

Missed Connections
by "Matt Smith"
$4.00 postage paid
Shred of Dignity / P.O. Box 170501 / San Francisco, CA 94117
Oh, boy... this turned into fun! *Missed Connections* is a collection of letters, scribbles and photographs sent to "Matt Smith" via a bogus personal advertisement in *Hot!* magazine (you know, one of those sappy teenage trendy mind control magazines). "Matt's" ad stated that he "really likes New Kids On The Block because they really stand up for what they believe in, like "Say No To Drugs." And his result is a collection of mail sent in by teens from all over the country who agreed. Wow, it's amazing... each letter is different, but they're all the same. My, the things punks do when we're bored! (Newt)

VIDEO

Voices Of Palestine
Voices of Palestine is a video shot by a Mpls. activist in the refugee camps of the Gaza strip in occupied Palestine. The facts and information are good and solid, but nothing new to anyone who knows a little about the Palestinian peoples' struggle. What is really great and makes this such a powerful video is the first hand testimony of Palestinians themselves about life under occupation. In case you have any trouble imagining the terror of living in a police state, there are scenes of incursions by the Israeli army that give you a sense of what it's like, and every scene ends with the camera being jerked away to avoid detection by the Army. (Paul)
Running time: 50 min.
For info, to distribute, etc. Contact:
Voices of Palestine, PO Box 6793, Mpls MN. 55406

CLASSIFIED ADS

Yes, despite forgetting to print rates in last issue we do in-fact sell classified ads! They are $2 per 40 words with a maximum of 80 ($4). There is no deadline for ads as we will print them as we get them and have space.

UNUSUAL AND OUTRIGHT FREAKY jewelry, gems, minerals, skulls and a variety of archaic, one-of-a-kind items. (301) 563-1583 Images /937 S. Baylis St. / Baltimore, MD 21224

LOOKING FOR TAPE TRADERS. Faves are: Christ on Parade, A//Solution, Lärm, 7 Minutes of Nausea. Pete / 4205 Coffey Ln. / Santa Rosa, CA 95403

GARBLECRAT's P.O. Box got fucked up this summer. Our new address is c/o Seth / P.O. Box 8 / Arrowbear Lake, CA 92382

FULL CIRCLE new list out now, ton's of kickin' core shit. Records, cassettes, videos, CD's, shirts, mags, fanzines and more. Send SAE (U.K.) or 1 IRC (Europe) or 2 IRCs (others) to Full Circle / 12 Bell St. / Newsome, Huddersfield, HD4 6NN / England

PUNK WRITERS!!! Emerge from your writing cave to correspond with other punk scribes and such. Add your name to a new alternative writer's network, listing addresses of other writers intending to unify the punk creative writing scene. Send name, address, short description of favorite styles/ forms/authors, whatever you want to say + $1 (postage and printing). Send all this to: Andromeda Press Network / P.O. Box 423592 / San Francisco, CA 94102. List will be sent when printed!

LOOKING FOR A PAIR of '77 punk style wraparound shades like DEVO used to wear. I had a few pairs in '81-'83 but got rid of them because they were too "new wave" for real hardcore punks. I think it's high time we reclaimed this punk fashion appendage for the real punks since no new wavers wear them anymore. If anyone has a pair of wraparound shades or knows where I can get some, please write Felix c/o MPLS AYF /PO Box 8585 / Minneapolis, MN 55408. I'll trade cool vinyl or pay you for them.

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BUSINESS & DISTRIBUTION

Dan: What records have you put out lately?
Sam: Too many.
Newt: What's the catalog now?
Sam: Officially we're up to VMFM #7, "Murders Among Us" was zero... two of them are split label which are after the current pressing of "Collosus," the Citizens Arrest album, and the Menace Dement seven inch which are numbers four and five respectively I think... we're going to turn those over to the other label.
Adam: It's so when we give it over to him 100% then we can disavow ourselves from him if he wants to put it through Caroline or something gross like that.
Sam: I talked to him a couple weeks ago on the phone and told him to make up black boxes and put them over Vermiform, I'll be happy with that. I don't want to look like an asshole by having my record label run through Caroline or Venus recordings. I hate those fuckers dearly.
Adam: Yes, there's a political bent to it but there's personal vendettas.
Sam: Very personal. Bill from Venus records continually insults us, there's a sign in Venus records right now that says something like, "Since Vermiform records are a rarity within the ecosystem we'll be selling them for five dollars because they become instant collectors items." Totally obnoxious shit. We sold our stuff to them for normal prices.
Adam: On the verbal agreement that they would sell them for seven inch - three dollars... album - six dollars. They lied straight to our faces saying we aren't distributing your records and then kids from Wisconsin and Michigan are calling us and asking, "Why is your seven inch $5.99?"
Sam: I phoned up Bill who's the fucking asshole who owns Venus, who's responsible for all this shit, got in touch with him two days before we left and we got 2500 copies of our album, 2500 copies of the new *Dear Jesus* unassembled, 2000 copies of the Econochrist single unassembled, plus other shit so we had 48 hours to take care of all this, so that's why I got in touch with Bill. I said, "Bill, two things. Item number one: you're vermin, you're shit, I hate you we're never ever going to deal with you again, you suck. Item number two: You should just be happy that we're leaving in two days because otherwise we'd come down there and break the fucking windows in your store. It just goes to show that's what we'll get.
Adam: When I was in my other band, LIFESBLOOD, like three years ago we had problems with Venus not because they even had our record in their store, we knew that was the way they operated. I took all that punk rhetoric to heart, and our practice space was right by their store so every time we'd walk by their store on our way to practice we would mess up their storefront. We would cover it with mustard and ketchup and glue up the lock and write "LIFESBLOOD" in big letters and "Guess Who, Assholes!" or just jam LIFESBLOOD stickers in their lock.... And to spite us, I thought it was the most beautiful thing in the world, I thought it was poetic, they are so stupid to spite us they sold our seven inch for 25 cents. They had already bought it from a distributor for $1.75. They're complete idiots.
Dan: Did you stop selling through all the bigger distributors?
Sam: We never went through any of the big ones.
Adam: The only time that we did was when we were financed by Combined Effort and 2000 "Murders Among Us" compilation went through Important.
Sam: Which was very uncool on our part. The final conclusion was, there had been so many problems with that seven inch, we fucked up. Especially with that essay. The essay was written before we knew what Dave's (Combined Effort) intention was. He was funding it, he called the shots. And the result of all of it was we'd play through the South and people would come up to us and say, "That was great, never heard of you before." So we're gonna start our own distribution when we get back. Adam and Charles and Fred from Wardance caught a "powerlunch" (chuckles) with Ruth Schwartz from Mordam and she's really cool she gave us tons of great advice. She was really into hearing us out, gave us a lot of good encouragement. So basically right now we got the capital and Charles, who's going to be organizing the whole thing, really knows his shit with money. I'm an idiot... I fuck up stuff. Charles doesn't. Especially when it comes to mathematics and handling cash. Adam's going to be the shitworker and we got a list of at least a thousand stores that Mordam deals with and then institutions and people across the country who sell shit at shows. We're just gonna work our asses off and try and make it work. It is a lot of work...it's not easy.
Joel So the plan is to make a living off of Vermiform?
Sam:Yes
Joel: How do you respond to critics who say you're making money off the scene, you're taking money from kids... anti d.i.y.?
Sam: Money is a real weird thing and a lot of people talk to us about money shit and don't totally see eye to eye with us. Our prices are always gonna be low. I think our 12"'s are basically dirt cheap. Blacklist called me and said, "You gotta be fuckin' up... your Lp's are a dollar cheaper than anyone else," so I did some quick calculations and said well, we're not losing money right now. Before we left on tour there was no real overhead. I was paying right out of my own money. When we get back, our living arrangements are kind of weird, I'm planning on paying half the rent with the money, maybe all of it if we can swing it. To me it's just a matter of we're not fucking over anyone to survive... and our prices are cheap. I have an incredible amount of respect for Dischord they're the one and only example we keep ringing up.

LIVING OFF PUNK

Joel: Is it possible to live off Vermiform?
Sam: Kent McClard is a good example.
Adam: But he doesn't live off it!
Sam: Almost!
Adam: He's a fucking janitor!
Sam: He's quitting his janitor job. He gets laid off in September. He said, "That's the deadline." He does distribution, he does it through someone in Europe and part of what he does is he has a deal worked out where he gets a certain profit margin I think it's 10% maybe 15% and he distributes it to Europe in such high volume that he makes a lot of money... according to him, when he gets laid off in September, he'll be able to cover rent from there on, and you can't get more snotty D.I.Y. than Kent! It gets tricky and there's a lot of shit that's a judgment call. We're gonna have to get more computer equipment.
Adam: Another thing that Sam hasn't been talking about is... that it's gotta be a labor of love even if you are making your rent off of it because when you have a 40 hour a week job that you go to and punch the clock you don't worry about it when you come home. It only entails those eight hours but this'll always be here, you're gonna get phone calls at one in the morning and you can't say, "Oh, I'm not working now." It's a lot more. It's actually your responsibility and you actually care about it. It's not like if you drop a refrigerator at work. You don't care. But if something gets lost in the mail and it's your record label... It's more stress and a lot more work for the money.
Sam: The main thing is just getting more efficient. Which means I personally have to get more efficient because I'm like the fuck up.
Joel: This may be a very pie in the sky type of question...
Sam: The last one was a very pie in the sky type of question. (to Joel, the guy with the long stringy hair and barley brew) Fuckin Hippie!
Joel: Fuck OFF! Edit that out... Would you mind making a living off of Born Against?
Sam: No, cause I don't think it's possible.
Joel: Getting beyond the fact that it's impossible unless you're Fugazi, would you have any theoretical qualms of living off of Born Against?
Sam: If it was off of records than theoretically it'd be through the record label. If it was off of shows..
Adam: It'd be a combination of the two obviously
Sam: I don't see how we could make tons of money off shows.
Joel: Do you see any difference between making a living off Vermiform and making a living off of Born Against?
Adam: I don't think so. The bottom line is the way we'd have to do it is to stay together for another four years or more and that's just wishful thinking, there's a lot of bands that have been together for ten years that don't make any money, but the main problem would come in with... can a band stay together long enough to have integrity and make money. If you're still a good band and making money you're a one in a million exception. If we had the chance to make $20,000 but I knew we were making shitty music, I would rather break up the band 'cause I don't wanna make shitty music no matter how much we get paid and I don't want to say stupid things... and that's what everybody does who makes a lot of money. The CLASH decided to sing "Should I Stay Or Should I Go?" and make a lot of money instead of singing "White Riot."
Sam: I think we could reach the point as a band where we call up promoters and say, "Hey, what's up? $500 a show, please," and a large percentage of the people would say, "Well, okay," and we're never gonna let that happen unless we go insane and get syphilis and go crazy. I'm saying unless we get some horrible disease that makes us go crazy we never gonna be such assholes that we say, "Hey, we deserve our $500 a show."
Adam: The thing about money. I learned on the tour, I originally played my cards right as far as a guarantee doesn't mean shit, I mean you can have all the papers you want and it doesn't mean anything because there were a few shows where we had that and it was meaningless.
Dan: Did you book all of your own tour?
Adam: Me and Charles the singer of RORSCHACH booked the tour. We're learning, I'm really glad people haven't lashed out at us for our blunders. There was no way we could see from the other end of the phone that some guy was a fat biker with a swastika tattoo who had a Go-Go club in Nashville.

STARTING VERMIFORM

Newt: How did Vermiform get started in the first place?
Adam: Neil our old bass player and Sam wanted to start something and then Neil shitted out. He's a great guy but he just wasn't interested in punk anymore.
Newt: When was this?
Adam: 1988. Then I just filled Neil's space, I wasn't very interested at first.
Sam: We put out that little seven inch and we weren't sure if that was the end of it or not... and Combined Effort helped us out. Sam, the lead singer of BORN AGAINST, came into some money not long after that, which a lot of people asked me about, to which I just say the same fucking thing - if I got money I'm trying to use it right... I haven't bought myself a fucking sports car and a lot of the big punk institutions that I admire, record labels or fanzines, were sort of based off of either people had some money and they knew what the fuck to do with it or places like SST or Dischord, to some extent, they just got the connections and said fuck it we're gonna do this on the biggest scale possible and sacrifice.
Adam: A good example of that is Pushead. A friend of mine was on the phone with him quite a long time ago. He got off and said, "That guy's the coolest, he's got a lot of money and all he does is good things with it," and at the time that was very true.
Javier: Now he does shirts for AEROSMITH.
Adam: Before he fucked up, he had a lot to show for it.
Sam: A lot of big punk labels have been started through infusions of outside money...
Adam: There's even a record label called Daddy's Money Records. A most awesome name...
Criterion: Trust Fund Baby!
Adam: That's a good one.
Joel: So what's that squiggly little thing on the logo for Vermiform?
Sam: What do you think it is?
Joel: I have no fucking clue what it is.
Adam: Know what it is?
Dan: It's a hair follicle.
Adam: We squashed a hippy with a sixteen ton weight!
Everyone: OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!
Sam: People have said ovaries, penis, the inside of a vagina, a split section of a frog, a pimple...
Dan: I said it was a hair follicle...
Newt: I thought it was a crossection of ovaries.
Criterion: Yeah, that's what I thought it was.
Sam: It's the crossection of a hair follicle. There have been so many rumors.
Adam: I think there's some rumors that we've been shot right now.
Sam: My mom looked at it and goes, "What is that?"
Adam: It's a good thing cause it looks obscene.
Sam: And the name Vermiform sounds like it has some connection... it sounds like it's vaguely obscene.
(Conversation turns... Sam says they were gonna call their label "Revulsion" and Jon says he heard second hand that it was originally "Vomit Room.")
Adam: That's rumors for ya. I think there's a rumor that we got shot.
Sam: Yeah, there was some scary stuff in Seattle. A friend of ours got hit in the head, not shot.
Adam: A couple days later Sam called San Francisco and Tim Yohanon had heard that one of was shot. Joe Martin - rumor mill.
Sam: Thanks Joe! Actually, the name is really "Vermiform, Inc." So, as much as we talk shit about corporations, we are one. Ha! Ha!

LEGAL HASSLES

Dan: Are you worried about any kind of backlash you'll get from the criticisms in Dear Jesus *or on the records?*
Sam: Legally, I think every record Vermiform has put out except MENACE DEMENT has had something on it that we could get in trouble for legally. We almost did get in trouble legally for an ad that we did. For a Born Against seven inch we ran three ads in consecutive issues of *MRR*. It was a picture Adam cut out of USA Today of a little kid holding a flag and the mother of the little kid got a hold of a copy of *MRR*...
Joel: Oh, really? Are you serious? Ha, Ha, Ha... the one that said, "Fuck the old ways..."
Sam: Yeah, and her lawyer had threatened to sue *MaximumRockNRoll* and Don Fury cause he had reproduced it small and put it in one of his ads and nothing ever happened. We got some certified mail and I said I'm not accepting this and nothing more ever came up. It's like I called up Warner Brothers to see if we could do the cover of that X song and I asked him and he said "X? Are they even on this label?" and I said, "Thank you sir, you just answered my question." (laughter)
Adam: We tried for months to get permission to use the photo on the RORSCHACH album, tracked this lady down to Switzerland and once we tracked her down and left all these messages they never got back to us and like Sam said, that answers your question.
Sam: I think if it's a matter of a personal artist I wanted to give her credit and maybe a small amount of money. If it was something crazy we would've said fuck off and done it anyway but if she wanted something that was normal I would have said yes. For the photo on the back of the Born Against seven inch we did get permission, it's from a book called gun people which is a really cool book and I just called up the printers and eventually tracked down the photographer who

lives in upstate New York and he was very cool, he just wanted like $70 so we said cool, used it, paid him; it says used with permission. But if it's something like Warner Brothers for the X song I'd never do that again or the Mark Twain company owns all the rights to Mark Twain's stuff and we printed that poem in full. Fuck them, I'm not gonna fucking pay them. They get their money from Hal Wohlberg and ABC after school specials so they're not getting my money... and hopefully they won't sue me. I think sometimes it comes down to they first request that the record be withdrawn so it's kind of like a margin there anyway.

Adam: Yeah, something happened with the JAWBREAKER "Busy" seven inch with Walter Matheau on the cover and it's still around, Mel from Shredder keeps pressing them.

Sam: There's lots of ways to shmooze around it. (Kristin says goodnight, Criterion demands five dollars from her that someone else owes him and Sam says to make sure this gets printed.)

Adam: Put in parentheses "hippy doles out money."

Joel: This hippy shit's gotta go!

Dan: "Hippy gets chainsaw!"

(Adam says Sam and him are growing their hair down to their asses tomorrow.)

Sam: I had a dream last night.....

SMOKING

Joel: We talked with ANTISCHISM about this and would like to get your perspective on this: smoking. They seem to think that the anti-smoking surge was started by BORN AGAINST.

(Adam claps)

Sam: We get credit for a lot of trends that don't exist like, "A lot of bands in New York are anti-religious these days."

Adam: What? GO!

Sam: It's not true.

Adam: Us and CITIZENS ARREST and RORSHACH.

Sam: Well RORSHACH doesn't have any anti-religious songs.

Adam: For the fun of it they are.

Sam: And NAUSEA.

Adam: And JESUS CHRUST and PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Sam: I have nothing against people who smoke, "I have lots of friends who smoke." I don't fucking discriminate against people because they smoke. I mean I don't drink or do drugs either and I hang out with lots of people who have serious problems in that respect. There's no personal thing going on. I dislike the institutions and at least if someone talks to me about drinking like Lawrence Livermore has all these arguments that I don't agree with but I'll definitely hear him out just like, "Oh ya know the worker in the 19th century that was their form of escape," or whatever, there's arguments you can use against it. I can't think of any argument against smoking except that you're giving money to these people who want to kill you and you're paying these huge corporations.

Adam: They don't care whether you die they just wanna make your money. They don't wanna kill you.

Sam: And you're paying these corporations whose sole service, there's not like another function they serve, they want your money and they're gonna kill you and that in particular seems real obvious to us and we did it out of a political standpoint not from some straight edge stand point. We're not a straight edge band; we have different beliefs within the band.

Adam: The lyrics to the song are real. My grandmother who was my favorite person in my family a couple of years ago died from smoking and her last words out of her mouth was, "Just let me smoke one last cigarette," and she had a giant tumor in her throat, her cancer spread to her mouth, her throat, her stomach, her brain and her lungs. She had emphysema, too, which isn't cancer but that was from smoking, too, and she went crazy because of it, she lost all control of her bowels and everything else. She reverted to the state of a three year old for a month before she died and I say, "Don't do that around me, don't let me breathe that in." And they go, "Come on you're gonna die sometime anyway."

Sam: "Everything causes cancer."

Adam: Please, please somebody let me get hit by a car let me fucking die of dysentery before I have to die of lung cancer.

Javier: It happened at Gilman Street. We were playing there in January, it was smokier than you could imagine. Charles was talking about it and someone came up to him and said, "You're gonna die anyway."

Sam: Charles had cancer and Charles has been really admirable just like all the shit that he had to go through to survive it and the fact that...

Adam: He still survived.

Sam: Not just the fact that he survived but that he didn't fuckin go crazy. I would of gone crazy if I would've went through the shit he went through. I mean bone marrow biopsy, I can't imagine someone jamming a nine inch needle into my bone marrow...

Adam: While your conscious...

Sam: Or getting chemotherapy. He would come home, Adam worked at his house, he would come home, fucking climb the stairs after chemotherapy, climb one flight of stairs that's it and sleep for fourteen hours cause he was so fuckin knocked up.

Adam: He slept more than that, he would sleep for over 24 hours. It is an emotional issue for me; it doesn't have shit to do with fucking straight edge. Everybody was saying this thing started with BORN AGAINST or whatever, there's a band that's extremely popular with everybody amongst this crowd called OI POLLOI who had that song in '86. And that personally was my inspiration to associate my anti-smoking attitude with a punk attitude. They did that to me.

Sam: People were a little surprised maybe that oh we're a political band we shouldn't have a song like that and especially since it was on that flexi we had the anti-war thing.

Adam: The whole thing about smoking for me is that it's a need created by basically the state and it's addictive and it kills you right about the time that you can't work anymore. It's so clear to me.

Dan: The thing that ANTISCHISM was trying to bring up was that when something like that comes up in a punk scene it's so self-policing that it often ends up breaking down amongst each other.

Newt: They said it would fade out in a couple years.

Adam: The thing about that is somebody in ANTISCHISM must be taking it very sensitively because they're smokers. There's nothing about "the scene" in anything we've written about smoking, it doesn't mention punk, it doesn't mention hardcore. There's nothing in what we wrote that couldn't be handed to a 70 year old person, a person from China or England or wherever that they couldn't understand. It's all in broad plain terms that don't have anything to do with the specifics of punk or hardcore and we're trying to get away from doing that.

Sam: Well maybe the little insert thing you wrote about politics about "don't talk to me about politics..."

Adam: I'm keeping that in mind, I still think that it's very broad and that it's the same argument that could be made like, "Come on guys don't sing about anarchy because a lot of people in the scene don't think that we should have anarchy." It's the same thing and I think that nobody should smoke.

Sam: We're not ripping people's cigarettes apart but when I walk into Revolutionary Books in Manhattan and there's all this stuff on the walls from people smoking cigarettes and it sets off a little thing in my mind says, "You people don't give jack shit about real politics what you want is like fake stuff." Thats kind of an over reaction on my part cause you can be very sincere and be into really good stuff and still smoke but it means that you're ignoring this big component in your life where you're giving hundreds of dollars. It's not a condemnation of anyone. I had a friend in California whose mom died the same deal as Adam's grandmother. She chainsmoked and it really sucked to see him going through all this shit and at her funeral he gave the eulogy and he said, "Before I give my speech I want to say to anyone out there in the audience who smokes - stop." and when he said that to me I was like fuck, this is real this isn't some bullshit and it had a real big impact on me.

Adam: The thing that's real about smoking is that ten minutes after my grandmother died I got the call at work and my boss told me ," Adam you gotta go over to the hospital your grandmother just died," and I was like oh well I'm not surprised and he was like, "What did she die from?" and I said she died from smoking from lung cancer and emphysema. He's standing there with a cigarette between his two fingers and he's taking drags on it and in between drags he goes, "Yeah, that's terrible my old man died of emphysema too, what can you do? It's terrible." It's the frustration of it. A lot of people who smoke might take it as a personal attack on them but beyond my own personal concern for myself not getting cancer from them it extends to caring about other people and the world that I care enough that I don't wanna see anyone go through that and even beyond that financially for money that is wasted treating people for cancer that they gave themselves is outrageous. It's part of the reason that health insurance is unaffordable in the United States, that's a real selfish reason to make other people health insurance unaffordable.

Sam: When we say the personal is political people go "yeah!" When we talk about smoking they go, "Oh they're assholes" It's the same thing, we're just making it real to them. A lot of the stuff that we say doesn't become important to people until we make it specific to their context. Not just punk and hardcore but just we don't generalize it.

ALCOHOL

Joel: Bringing that closer to someone like me, do you think there's parallels between smoking and alcohol?

Adam: Yeah. Complete. I think that the only exception is probably home brew. Even with that you better not drink too much of it or you're not gonna be doing shit for anybody, you're not gonna be changing anything.

Sam: We argued that with you in our conversations in Phoenix, just said the only people making home brew in the United States are you (Joel) and maybe you guys do it (Dan, Newt) and the people we met in Santa Fe and maybe some people in New York. People don't make home brew they go to the store and buy a six pack and the companies they support do lots of fucked up shit.

Adam: I've had friends, like we're at a show and a kid said to my friend who was drinking a commercial beer, "Hey do you know that there's animal products in that beer?" and he goes, "Yeah" and the kid said "well I thought you were a vegetarian." and the other guy goes, "Well let's just say," with a big smile on his face, "I'm a non-meat eater who drinks." I don't get it, I don't understand why you can make the sacrifice of not eating meat but then you can't overlook fucking tipping a bottle into your mouth and feeling dizzy for an hour.

Sam: That's more a personal thing. Javier has his own beliefs, John does. I do.

Joel: (to Javier) How do you feel, do you agree with what Sam and Adam have said about smoking?

Javier: To the point of the animal shit, yeah I agree with them.

Joel: Do you think there's a parallel with drinking then seeing as you're someone in the band who drinks?

Javier: (a car was going by the front porch and I couldn't make out wot the fuk was said, Sam interrupts anyway...so shoot me. - tod)

Interrupting Sam: We don't give him any shit for drinking that's his thing. I would give him a lot of shit if he were a smoker in the band.

I think the guitarist from Rorshach: We give him shit in the same way they give me shit for giving myself a stupid haircut.

Adam: Yeah it's about that level.

Joel: I wasn't talking about giving him shit I was saying do you see it the way Sam and Adam see it?

Javier:

Sam: I wouldn't talk to him too much about the animal stuff because I'm not a vegan by any stretch. I fuck up like all the time. I just don't have the discipline to be a vegan, so I couldn't use the argument Adam uses in the first place.

Adam: I'm just an angry asshole when it comes to these kind of things.

Javier: I very rarely buy commercial beer.

Sam: I mean if Javier were getting so drunk that he couldn't be effective as other people we've been involved with have then we would start seriously saying this is a problem. I don't think there's anything revolutionary in getting drunk but I don't think there's anything particularly counter-revolutionary besides the fact that you're supporting beer companies and drinking. It's kind of neither here nor there for me, it's something that never had an impact.

Adam: For me, my thing against drinking, is that when I first heard or understood that there was all these other people out there with these values in punk and hardcore that said fuck the government, fuck dressing normal, fuck sexual roles, fuck everything they said fuck everything and I also came across the fact that people were saying, and it made sense to me, that were saying fuck drinking and taking drugs and all that cause that is part of society and society wants you to do that the same way the only want you to fuck wimmin who lie on their back and the same way they want you to wear a suit and a tie and that's completely true otherwise the CIA wouldn't be bringing drugs into the country and creating an imaginary drug war. To me it had just that extra punkness to it.

Sam: "We go to eleven." (mimicking Nigel from Spinal Tap)

Adam: No really I just thought it was a really positive thing not in the way the word is used now.

Sam: Positive is such a trashed word.

Dan: Society is so dependent on work and the pleasure that if suddenly there was no beer or alcohol then there would be, if people didn't have these things...

Adam: But it's only because the system made it that way, cause the people in power had made it that way, they've structured it that way and I don't want to be part of their structure at all. That's not gonna be an argument that works from the way I come. I'm thinking about it, the way I think about it.

Sam: People get so defensive with me, I've had so many arguments with people like, "What if I just took mushrooms and mind altering drugs, they're organic and they can help me see," I'm like I don't give a fuck, I don't care do whatever you want. Smoke pot!

Adam: I have to concede, the same way with homebrew, if you're going out in the woods and turning over cowshit to get your mushrooms what can I really say as long as you just don't drive a car and kill somebody. What can I say?

Sam: Unless you used to be somebody who was really politically active who then decided to sit around their apartment all day and take mushrooms.

Adam: But that's not usually what really happens. I haven't really found that.

Sam: We try to be assholes about these issues, not about people, not about personal stuff. We have no personal vendettas about any of this shit.

Adam: So what I'm saying is, I said it in an interview in *No Answers* that people don't understand, I'm not against drug dealers or people in the hills of Arkansas who grow pot because they need it to buy Christmas presents or something like that and I would stand in the way of the DEA agents that come and chop all that stuff down not because I wanna see a bunch of people get high but because these people have no other options, it's the same thing with the twelve year old crack dealer and I'm not like an idiotic suburban straight edge guy. I do say I'm straightedge and I am from suburbia, there are a lot of people who are against drugs the same way I am but they don't understand that there's relativity to the situation.

Sam: If we have promo pictures, which we won't, they'll be with our pants around our ankles and fuckin pies in our faces and giving eachother the finger. That just sucks, I hate that.

Dan: We're saving all our promo pictures that we get in the mail and we're just gonna stick stickers on them for all our promo pictures, everyone will have a different picture.

Sam: I wish I got a lot more promo material but I think a lot of those places know that...

Dan: No, send them a copy of the magazine or back issue if there's a time that you never slagged off labels send them old issues and you'll get stacks from major labels, you can sell them and finance your record label.

Sam: Arista kept sending me shit and I sent them a bunch of 'fuck you' letters.

Joel: Why? They've been sending Hippycore stuff twice a week and we're dead. We haven't done a zine in a year and a half and we're not gonna do another zine. So they're spending 20 bucks a week sending us shit.

Sam: I just hate standing in line for twenty minutes at the Manhattan post office to get BARRY MANILOW.

Dan: Well, walk down to the local record store and sell it.

Sam: Is there anything else we should cover?

Adam: I'm gonna to cover Satan's body with my body in about a minute.

BORN AGAINST
P.O. BOX 1145
COOPER STATION
NYC, NY 10276

ARA is one of the most active, organized, and inspiring groups in theTwin Cities, and in the U.S. for that matter. It concentrates on local concerns while always maintaining an international, radical perspective. The anarchistic, nonhierarchical way in which they operate can teach much to other groups. We thought we'd take a look at ARA and what it does and how it operates in this issue.

ANTI-RACIST

U of M Students Say No! to the "White Student Union"!

BY CHRIS CRISIS

Late in September racist Tom David attempted to organize a racist "White Student Union" on the University of Minnesota campus. He is known to have connections to the Ku Klux Klan and neo-nazis in East St. Paul, making him a threat not to be ignored. David placed personal ads in the Minnesota Daily trying to recruit students into his Neo-Nazi union while trying to initially disclaim his racist, nationalist, sexist, and homophobic agenda. Anti-Racist Action responded by initiating an Anti-Racist coalition on campus to oppose David's efforts to organize on the U of M campus. The following is an overview of Anti-Racist activities this past fall.

Tom David showed us his true colors on September 25th when his overtly racist, sexist, and anti-immigrant opinions piece appeared in the Minnesota Daily, espousing his empty white supremist/separatist rhetoric, attempting to justify his ignorance using immigrants and "minorities" as a scrapegoat for various social-economic problems i.e. high taxes, the recession, high crime rates and diseases, which he is obviously using to gain support from working class whites who like the rest of us feel the pressure of the weakening economy. Hitler did the same thing in Germany back in '36'. David clearly contradicted his earlier claims of not being a racist, ecspecially when he wrote "If it isn't white, waste it," threatening to eventually "Blitzkrieg" the "U" with his racist organization. Too close to Hitler for comfort.

A.R.A. mobilizes at the "U"

Not wasting any time at getting David off campus Anti-Racist Action called for an open meeting on September 27th to organize as many of the student cultural unions and individual students in a united effort to stop David's recruiting efforts.

From 150 to 200 people of widely diverse backgrounds came to voice their concerns and discuss how racism and bigotry affected their lives, and to decide what actions would be taken to oppose the "White Student Union." After a couple hours of heated discussion a decision on a name was made, thus the spawning of the Coalition Against White Supremacy (C.A.W.S). Not shortly after, the first demonstration was planned for the following week on campus. The final step was organizing, which went underway immediately.

Students rally against the White Student Union

The demonstration happened on October 9th in front of Northrop Plaza. The security team showed up early to discuss tactics and set up the P.A. equipment and banners. While we were setting up, Tom David showed up sporting a green flak jacket, accompanied by six of his followers. One of them was identified as Derrik Schmauker, a known Klansman and organizer of the ultra-fascist Northern Hammer Skins. One of them waved a forty-eight starred "American" flag. Announcing he'd like to apologize, David passed a flier out filled with Nazi sarcasm. Taking a place on the steps in attempt to intimidate us, they found themselves face to face with vehement opposition to their presence, as the security team surrounded them, thus isolating them from the crowd. Meanwhile, people started to fill the plaza as the speakers started. 500 people turned out to let David know that he and his groupies were not welcome at the "U". Two hours of speakers from various student organizations spoke, including Anti-Racist Action, the Young Socialist Alliance, the University Gay Community, Progressive Stundent Organization, and many others as well. The demonstration ended as the security team surrounded the nazis, causing them to have to move. They were escorted off campus as a good number of people followed them, shouting, "Racist, Sexist, Anti-Queer; Nazi scum get out of here!!!" All the way David feigned victory while escorted by cops for protection. He had clearly lost, and he knew it. They were followed all the way to their car to make sure they left promptly.

A.R.A. shouts down Tom David

Assuming that David has the right to free speech, various student groups invited him to debate his views in a public forum on October 14th. A.R.A. was not in support of this forum, as there is no justification for racism at all. Being excluded purposely from this event for obvious reasons, A.R.A. decided that there was no way they could let him speak, therefore planning to disrupt him when he spoke. A leaflet was made inviting people to help "shout down" David. Before the debate the leaflets were passed out and about 25 disrupters sat strategically around the auditorium in Coffman Union. Nearly 300 people showed up for the debate. In all there were six panel speakers including David, each having ten minutes to state thier platform before debating. David was fifth to speak, the only racist on the panel. His turn came up and on his cue he was assailled verbally, drowning out his words. Was he furious, and it showed. He barely ever got a word in, but what he did say is this " This is, to me, a holy war, and I will fight for my race, even to the death! I fight not for the masses of white men, but for the select few! I fight for the Goethes, the Nietzsches, and the Beethovens!" Meanwhile the audience which claims to despise racism defended David, saying he had a right to free speech, trying to pacify the disruptive people. Failing to realize that "free-speech" is not the issue, and in light of social conditions in this land, it doesn't apply. It didn't matter that much since A.R.A. had accomplished what it set out to do, let it be known that there is no compromise in the fight against racism. There was no debate, since David stormed out of the auditorium with a police escort. By all and any means necessary we will battle the Nazi menace, and until the last Nazi is gone, there will be no peace.

Nazis attack anti-racist demonstrators

David was invited to be interviewed on the campus radio station WMMRat 11:00 P.M. on October 17th. Once again A.R.A. saw no point in letting racists propagate their sick ideology. That night a small group of anti-racists assembeled outside the Coffman Union (the location of WMMR) to demonstrate against the interview. In addition to the demonstrators, the cops were there on David's own request, as well as David's own security force, who attacked the outnumbered and unarmed demonstrators without provocation. Armed with nun-chuks, lead pipes, chains and a Rottweiler dog the Nazis ended up hospitalizing three of the demonstrators. All the while the cops sat back as we got beaten up, then breaking up the fight, threatening to arrest the demonstrators, which is to be expected from cops.

Returning to the base, there was a discussion on what happened and what could have been done instead. While arming ourselves and getting ready to return in force, we also discussed if it was sane to go back, and questions were raised if the male factor was out on a macho violence trip, or were we going to equally seek vengeance. It was a brilliant talk since it grounded the group and discussed what the plan of action would be. Then, piling into the cars, we went back. Too late though; as we arrived, David was leaving with his police escort. So, back to base again, another meeting to more fully discuss what next. It was decided that there needed to be a press conference the following day. Volunteers to write press releases worked til' dawn getting the job done. David's wanna be stormtroopers may have beaten us physically that time, but they were far from defeating us as we were able to achieve alot more than senseless violence.

Ending on a good note

Overall the campaign against the "White Student Union" brought about a lot of good things. One ,A.R.A. received a charter as an official student organization at the University of Minnesota while David's group remains ineligible for obvious reasons. Secondly, alot of cooperation happened between various autonomous anarchist groups pivoting around the current rise in racism, the final result of this being the formation of a Twin Cities Anarchist Federation. Thus building the community, we're all a part of a stronger movement, allowing more room for growth through interaction and confrontation.

An emergency response phone tree has been utilized when our allies are being threatened by fascists, quickly mobilizing people to go to their aid, as has happened when Nazi's were terrorizing anti-racist's/Anarchists in East St. Paul, in which we had to bring our friend over to Minneapolis to a safe-house. Let it be known that "An injury to one is an injury to all" and we will defend ourselves and our allies from any and all fascist attacks!

JONNA

Interview with Jonna, a longtime activist in ARA and the Twin Cities in general, as well as one fucking cool human being. Interview by joel, with a groggy Chris Crisis present.

Joel: Why don't you tell a little bit about yourself first.

Jonna: Well, I grew up all over the place because my mom was a hippie artist. She was poor, real poor, so we lived in this big red truck named Betsy with a dog named Beast. I was born in Brooklyn, then we moved to living in a tent in upstate New York, then we went on the road. We moved to Soho, Ohio, on farms, in cities, in the forest. We moved here in the middle of fifth grade. That's kind of how I grew up. I'm Jewish by heritage, which is really important to me, to remember my culture, but I think the religion is really patriarchal, hierarchical, and doesn't really offer much empowering, but the culture itself does, because it's a really great culture of resistance to fascism. I'm queer and I came out when I was thirteen as a raging lesbian separatist and I hated men and anything that had to do with men, and that led me to being a radical activist. Now I'm in a pretty long term heterosexual lovership and that is really interesting *[laughs]*. I like him a lot; it's very hard. He's a very good friend, and that's probably why it sometimes works.

Joel: Why don't you explain a little bit about what ARA is and what it's doing.

Jonna: Well, ARA has changed a lot since its first inception. What ARA was was a group of young, working class, multi-racial skinheads called the Baldies. [They emerged] as a response to a group of nazi skinheads called the White Knights, who were organizing in Minneapolis. The Baldies wanted a more broad-based resistance to the nazis, so they created Anti-Racist Action. It didn't turn out to be very broad-based, though. It was very internal and very macho, very male-dominated. That's how the Baldies were, period. But they were very successful in beating out the nazi skinheads, which is so incredible, and they were youth and they were organizing as youth. They held press conferences, they did a lot of propaganda, a lot of education, they did a lot of really great things.

Joel: What's ARA now?

Jonna: ARA now is still a pretty youth-based organization. It's much, much broader. Still pretty white but there are a couple people of color. It addresses oppressions including racism: sexism and homophobia and heterosexism and class. What we're trying to do is understand how all these oppressions intersect, perpetuate each other, feed off each other, and in order to fight racism we need to fight all the oppressions together. ARA has a very anarchic way of organizing and working within the group. There are queers within the group, people from different class backgrounds, people who have dropped out of high school, people who have their bachelor's degrees and are on to their master's. The level of militancy is still pretty high.

Joel: What's ARA doing right now?

Jonna: Right now ARA is embarking on an incredible adventure with a new structure, which I'm very hopeful about. We're dividing up into three smaller groups so we can be more rooted in community activism. I think it's really important to be rooted in communities because that's who we are. We are accountable to our community and our community is accountable to us, and it's where we draw strength from.

Joel: Where are these communities?

Jonna: These communities are in south Minneapolis, the University of Minnesota, and the east side of St. Paul. The reason why it's specifically the east side of St. Paul is that it's a really large nazi stronghold. So these three groups will be meeting autonomously, but we'll also be meeting as a large group every other week to talk about strategy. We're going to be caucusing with oppressed and oppressor groups and then we're going to be talking about things like how me as a queer, working with heterosexuals, how do we together fight racism while still addressing homophobia and heterosexism. The world is ours!

Joel: You strongly emphasize the connections and interplay among all the oppressions. Why then the name Anti-Racist Action? Why the emphasis on racism in your name?

Jonna: Well, I didn't choose the name.

Joel: But a lot of things in ARA are geared around racism, too.

Jonna: Yeah. Well, my visions are always toward complete revolution and how to build a revolutionary movement and I feel as a white person, in order to build a revolutionary movement, I really need to work on fighting racism cos right now genocide is being commited against people of color, and that's a really big priority to me. Also, the group came about and was modeled after Anti-Fascist Action in England. I would like the group to eventually be Anti-Fascist Action, but I think the whole idea of what fascism here in the United States is, people don't really understand it yet, and so we really couldn't call ourselves that, yet.

Joel: How did you become involved in ARA?

Jonna: I was in a group called the Revolutionary Anarchist Bowling League, and we were trying out a new structure of breaking down into bowling teams, and one of the bowling teams was an anti-racist bowling team. We decided that maybe it would be a good idea to start ARA up again, because at that point it had dissolved. One of the guys in RABL was also a Baldie — Kieran — so he called up some Baldies and we called up some other people and we had our first meeting together. It was also in response to a lot of racist incidents that had been happening, like Tycel Nelson, who was shot in the back and killed by police.

Joel: ARA has a somewhat controversial stand on violence. Why don't you explain it. Why is ARA *NOT* nonviolent and what is the need for violence?

Jonna: Because we believe that people need to survive, and that in order to survive we need to defend ourselves and fight back, and to make a space where we can breathe and live, and create. That often means beating people out of our space and out of other people's space who maybe can't do it for themselves at that time. I think the reason it's so controversial is that it *works*. It works, as a tactic used with other tactics. I don't believe that beating up nazis is the only tactic to do anti-racist work, but it is a very good tactic and we've seen it work really well. I also think that a lot of white liberals who talk about pacisfism can also be construed as pretty racist, or classist, or sexist, because of those positions of power [white middle class people find themselves in.] You may not ever be in a situation of a physical confrontation, but a woman on the street who has an attacker upon her who wants to rape her, what is she going to do, roll over? No, she's going to fight back, and a lot of people who have privilege don't find themselves in those kinds of confrontations, like with a nazi going, "Fucking nigger, fucking nigger!" You have to fight back.

Joel: I don't think a lot of nonviolent people would have a problem with a woman fighting back in an attempted rape, but what about, say, Martin Luther King's organizational tactics, organizing broad-based movements based on nonviolent strategies, which a lot of groups structure themselves around today. What is the advantage in not denying the necessity of violence in mass-based organizing as opposed to the Martin Luther King approach, which almost every group in America takes.

Jonna: Yeah. Well, I think it [the nonviolent approach] is kind of unrealistic. I don't think it works. We can look, historically and herstorically, at armed movements and we can look historically and herstorically at pacifist movements and see actually what works. And also, racism is so institutionalized as well as one-on-one assaults; we're talking about bringing down a system, and that is going to take a really big, armed revolution, so you gotta build somewhere.

Joel: Do you think it's stance on violence hurts or helps ARA in its dealings with the community?

Jonna: I guess it depends on which community you talk about. It has given us a really interesting place in the progressive/radical/liberal community, where they're either afraid of us or don't take our politics seriously. We've become the disposable youth. They can ignore us because they think we're not thinking our shit out because we're using these tactics. It also creates really incredible allies, people who know this is the right thing to do because they've had to do it their whole lives.

Joel: Like who?

Jonna: Like people who are on the street. Poor people, of all different colors, and women. As far as building allies with different communities, it's really about explaining tactics and

really explaining how the tactic of violence fits into a much broader analysis. I think that the more we talk about it, people will understand and support and come to build ARA or groups like ARA. People don't quite know what's up yet.

Joel: It seems to tie in a lot with class. The nonviolence stance nowadays is a pretty white, privileged class thing. Another thing ARA gets a lot of shit for, especially as of late around the university, is the freedom of speech stuff. Why don't you explain ARA's stance on freedom of speech, because "freedom of speech" is such a sacred cow in American culture,theoretically.

Jonna: Exactly, that's the whole thing, it's theoretical. The Bill of Rights sounds like this way rad piece of paper, but that's the thing, it is just a piece of paper. The goon squad, known as the police, who are supposedly defending what's said in this piece of paper, are just doing things for their own good. The whole premise free speech is a lie, and so we're trying to reframe the whole argument. Everyone cries, "Freedom of speech, freedom of speech!" but we don't have it, so how can it be taken away? And even if we did have freedom of speech, the power of the people in ARA. . . I mean we don't have very much power in the social scale in the United States so how can we silence anybody?

Joel: Explain to me your stance on freedom of speech, because obviously ARA is structurally based on everyone having an equal say and everyone having the right to speak, so that seems to very much be freedom of speech, but then on the other hand a lot of people in ARA say that freedom of speech is a myth. When you say freedom of speech is a myth, it turns a lot of people off and seems contradictory to the actual practices of ARA, so if you could make that distinction for me. . .

Jonna: Sure. The speech that fascists speak is

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ACTION

KIERAN

ANTI-RACIST ACTION INTERVIEW WITH Kieran Frazier.
interview by joel and Chris

Joel: Why don't you tell us a little bit about yourself.

Kieran: My name's Kieran Frazier and I'm in ANTI-RACIST ACTION. I used to be in the REVOLUTIONARY ANARCHIST BOWLING LEAGUE (R.A.B.L.), I'm a revolutionary anarchist. The main stuff I'm working with right now is ANTI-RACIST ACTION and I just moved to the east side of St. Paul so I'll be part of the EAST SIDE ANTI-RACIST ACTION group. I'm also part of the LOVE & RAGE project; I'm a member of the coordinating group.

Joel: What got you involved in ARA?

Kieran: It started out. . . I was an anarchist and I've always had an interest in anti-racist stuff or black liberation stuff. When I was growing up my parents were leftists, they had stuff around the house about Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and stuff like that, so I was really influenced by that. Also, I'm really influenced by the stuff going on in South Africa in the mid-eighties. So anyway, I was this anarchist with this interest in black liberation and anti-racist stuff and about the time I was about 15 or 16 I got hooked up with some of my cousins who were anti-racist skinheads and they were in this group called the Baldies. Just as I was starting to hang out with them they were having this big violent split with the White Knights which was a neo-nazi group. I was really into the Baldies; I thought they were really cool and all that stuff but also because of the politics cos I saw them standing up to these people and wanted to fight them and stuff. So that's how I really got into it, I was in the Baldies and then a year later the Baldies started ANTI-RACIST ACTION.

Joel: Would you explain the structure of ARA, particularly the caucuses?

Kieran: ANTI-RACIST ACTION is reformed now, first I'll say it's quite different than the first generation of it that the Baldies started. It's definitely less than half skinheads but there's still some anti-racist skinheads in it. We've been doing some good work now for about a year and now we're in the process of reorganizing and one of the ways we're reorganizing is basing ourselves in the three communities we have people doing work in and that's south Minneapolis or the Uptown area, the University of Minnesota, and the east side of St. Paul. Those three different groups will meet amongst themselves and work in those communities and try to organize anti-racist sentiment and also militant opposition to organized racists. I think that break down will make us more based in communities. It will make us have to deal with regular people and make us have to get our arguments together better and make us depend on the people in those communities for our defense. I think it'll make us better organizers.

I also think that one of the problems that you have in a group that's mixed, that isn't just all white or just men or just wimmin or isn't just straight is that you have this problem within the group of different oppressions coming up in the group that because you know society sets men above wimmin, whites above blacks. It doesn't disappear inside our group either so how do you figure out a way to make our group as equal as we can do it? The way we're gonna try is by having caucuses within the groups so that when our groups meet together wimmin have a chance to meet separately and discuss how sexism is affecting their group and men have a chance to meet separately and discuss how they can fight sexism within themselves and help support wimmin and taking more power within the group and the same goes for whites and people of color.

Joel: Why don't you explain how the caucuses are set up.

Kieran: The four caucuses are white people and people of color, men and wimmin, queers and straights, working class and upper class or middle class. It's sort of undefined. We don't know if this will fly yet.

Joel: Each caucus is going to meet after each meeting?

Kieran: Right, our general meetings of all three sub-groups are gonna be divided into two parts, one of which is sort of a strategy session where all three sub-groups discuss their long term goals and how they're implementing those goals and how they're progressing. The second part of the meetings will be the caucuses. The big group will divide up into one caucus for each of these group meetings so that [for example] the wimmin would divide up into one section and the men would divide into the other and discuss things and then come back together as a group to discuss what we talked about in the small group.

Joel: How effective do you think these caucuses will be, especially since some people aren't always that clear about identifying themselves; say bisexuals or some people aren't sure of their class origin or things like that?

Kieran: I don't know how it'll work, it'll be a challenge for us I think and in some ways it'll make things harder but in the long run it'll make things stronger. We shouldn't be dogmatic about it either; if some kind of caucus just isn't working cos it's too undefined or we're having trouble with class then we should just talk about it openly and discuss the problems with it and if people are having a hard time defining stuff then they can experiment and go to each one of the caucuses or the group itself can talk about it. I think just because we set up a rule doesn't mean that rule is engraved in stone or something or that our system of organization can't change.

Joel: How have the internal politics been played out in ARA and how do you think these caucuses are gonna affect that?

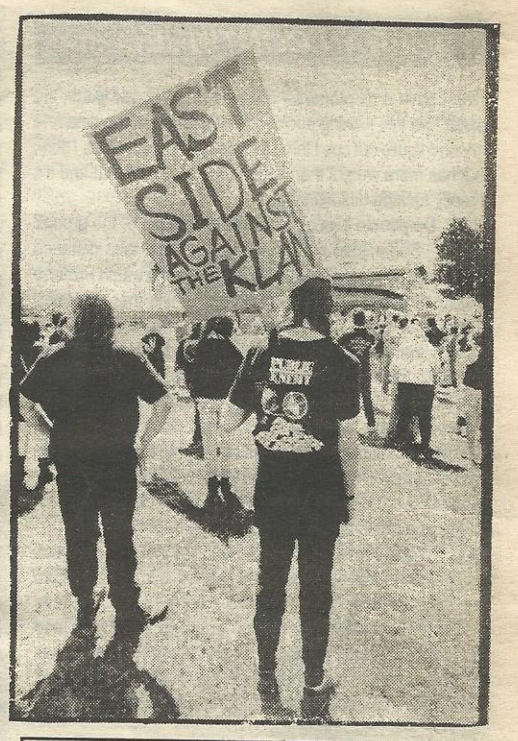
Kieran: I feel pretty good about ARA in a lot of ways as compared to a lot of other groups I've been in. I think there's not just one or two people controlling the group; there's a lot of people who actively participate, do a lot of work and make a lot of decisions. I think, though, that there still is white people dominating, so there's some people who think there should be just a white anti-racist group, but white people dominate and I think men dominate too, although I should say that there's some wimmin who play really strong roles within ARA and we should support that and not deny it. So you still have a problem there, just like in society white straight men tend to dominate and I hope this will go towards fixing that.

Chris: Obviously not everybody can always do all the decision making and always be there so what about people who can't be a part of all the decision making. Are there other fields of interests for them, too?

Kieran: One thing about ARA is that it doesn't have this hard membership, we don't have membership cards. There's probably a hundred people in this city who might consider themselves ARA in some way or another but there's usually about 20 people at each meeting so I think we have to take into account that those meetings are our base of support and not do something that's gonna alienate [the others]. Also, I think that people who can't attend meetings have a number of ways that they can make their sentiments known but I think that the people who do participate in the meetings, and hopefully with this sub-group structure a lot more people will participate...just by relating how you feel about ARA to the people who do come to the meetings, and there's a number of other things. ARA doesn't just have meetings they have other stuff, too, like chase nazis and put up flyers.

Chris: Help people out?

Kieran: Yeah, help people out. Hopefully we'll have some concerts.



AN ARA-sponsored demo on the East Side of St. Paul, June 1991
***Photo stolen from the* City Pages**

Chris: Hopefully stop some racist concerts as well.

Kieran: We made a flyer last night and got it translated into three different languages - Spanish, Hmong and Vietnamese. We decided not to try and stop the concert at the day of the concert so we're gonna try and do this picket a couple of days before. *(The flyer was made up to let people know about a concert that was organized by a known KKK member from the east side of St. Paul. The bill was to include the racist nazi band Bound for Stupidity ,er, umm...Glory? The show was called off due to the efforts of ARA and members of the community - tod).*

Joel: I'd like to talk about your own power in ARA. You've been around for a long time, you're one of the original members of the Baldies, a lot of people respect you and look up to you. How do you feel about your power in ARA, beyond being a white male?

Kieran: I think it all goes together, too. I think that because I've been around for a long time and because I'm a white male I

preaching genocide and hate, and that is not about freedom, that is not about liberation, it is about killing people and subordination and domination and perpetuating a hierarchy. The kind of free speech I want to be a part of is empowering everybody and liberation for everybody and I don't feel that by allowing fascists to speak, this is going to create true freedom for everybody. The people that invite fascists to speak on the radio or anywhere, I think that should be disrupted and not allowed to happen because it's not building toward true liberation.

Joel: Where do you draw the line? What about misogynists speaking? What about statists speaking?

Jonna: I believe in not letting misogynists speak, too.

Joel: But that basically silences 99.9% of the United States of America.

Jonna: You have to start somewhere. We have to start somewhere. It's very unrealistic to silence, say, the porn industry. But, what we can do is encourage men and hold other men accountable for their misogyny and men organiziang together to fight misogyny, like men's participation in the Take Back the Night march, and having a No Pig Zone. I think that's a very big part in silencing the cops. We can start small, like trying to shut down porn shops and boycotting them.

Joel: I think ARA really hurts itself by saying free speech is a myth, because in practice ARA is very much into letting people have their say. It seems to me that the freedom of speech issue is a structural thing, like what you were saying about misogynistic and homophobic speech. The whole idea is to empower people and shutting people up is not going to empower people, except for fascists. Fascists are fascists, they're not going to change and have to be beaten out of existence.

Chris: The whole phrase "freedom of speech" is patented and trademarked in America, so yeah it is a myth in that you can't say—

Jonna: Well, freedom of speech in America assumes that we all possess the same amount of power. I mean, here comes the fascist or the nazi, and then here comes the person who's going to debate the fascist. It's assuming we're on the same level and we're not. These people [nazis] are white, male, and they appear to be heterosexual, and those traits are totally valued in this country. They have the most access to and the most power in this country. So here I come along, this Jewish queer woman who's a revolutionary anarchist who's supposedly going to debate this guy. We do not have the same power and within the structure of ARA we try to be as nonhierarchical as possible, so within our meetings we can experiment with the ideas of free speech because we can actually debate each other. When you're debating a nazi you don't come at it from such an equal position. Within ARA, maybe we can start to look at what it actually is like to have freedom of speech.

Joel: So it's structural. Free speech assumes that people start from the same social position in society, when they really don't.

Jonna: Right.

Joel: Back to the violence thing, to jump around a bit. Do you think ARA's stance on violence excludes you as a woman in any way?

Jonna: No way!

Joel: A lot of feminist arguments assert — and the university ARA has gotten shit from women making such arguments — that not taking a nonviolent stance is really macho and patriarchal.

Jonna: I think that it is so empowering for women to have control over their physical surroundings and to be able to create a space for themselves. Sometimes that means forging it out physically. Women have been stereotyped as physically weak and that even if we are strong we should appear to be weak because that makes us more desirable. I want to smash those ideas. We can be whatever we want to be and if that means being physically strong and acting upon it than we should be able to do that for ourselves. It has a lot to do with self-determination. As far as it being a macho thing, working with men and being a physical force with men, ARA has taken a lot of time out — though not as much time as I'd like — in times of incredible crisis to talk about our motivations for action, like asking the men, Are you clear about why you're fighting, why you're using that as a tactic, how do you feel about not acting as defenders of the women in the group but working with the women as allies and as equals and helping the women be as empowered as the men already are. A lot of women don't grow up getting into fistfights with their friends or wrestling, so again, it's about how do we come at things from an equal place. I think it's about reframing the entire perspective. Physical fighting doesn't have to be a macho thing, it can be an action creating self-determination.

Joel: How does ARA go about including women in its activities, and does ARA do it fairly?

Jonna: Fair is a point of view. In my point of view, I don't think it's fair because we live in a misogynist society that has taught men to degrade women, and no matter how conscious men are about being equal, about being fair, being nice, misogyny and sexism and all the oppressions are still played out in ARA. But, as far as facilitation, as far as putting out leaflets, as far as political discussions and arguments, women are invited and take a really strong place in the group. It is now who we become, who we are. Who we have become, to have women in leadership positions, helping make decisions. We really try to be collective, and since there are women in the group, it just becomes part of the collective process. . . We take things that are "women's issues" and they become ARA issues as well.

Joel: How well do you think sexism and homophobia and class is dealt with in ARA, and how well do you think people deal with it in the group?

Jonna: I think it's played out in subtle and not-so-subtle ways, in the ways people listen or don't listen or the way we interrupt each other or whose ideas are valued more than others. I think that's really where the oppression is played out. I think that we're all really scared to hold each other accountable on a personal level within the group. It's just starting to happen, but it's really scary.

Joel: What do you mean?

Jonna: Like, I'm really good friends with people in the group, but I'm really scared to put myself out there, and I'm so scared of appearing to be the nag or the bitch or to be taking too much time or turning ARA meetings into a therapy group. I'm really concerned about these things, but at the same time, people are being silenced by these oppressions. Just by saying to you at the meeting before last that I'd prefer you saying "queer" instead of "gay" and this is why, that was so scary to me. I was like, oh my god, maybe I'm silencing joel or maybe he'll have a really hard time with me now or maybe he's feeling a lot of shame now. It becomes this really big hyped up thing, but we really need to do these simple things. We come from different realities, you know, and you may not know that that's a hard thing for me, and it's my responsibility to let you know. Here we are, white people fighting racism, fuck, we really have to open up our mouths and say, "Hey man, I think that's really fucked up." We really need to take these risks, we really do, and I don't think we take enough of them on an interpersonal level. I think these caucuses that we'll be having will begin to paint that out, cos I don't think we know how to do that, really. As people we're so isolated from each other in this society, we don't know how to have healthy intimacy and relate to each other in a good way.

Joel: How well would you say ARA does this compared to other groups?

Jonna: Excellent. I've been in women's groups and lesbian groups that of course are much more internal, but as far as balancing internal and external [politics] I think we're moving in a good way. The only other group that I think that worked better was RABL, and we were too extreme; we would do a lot of internal stuff and it wasn't balanced enough, we didn't have the rhythm. I have a lot of hope in ARA, and I kind of have a lot of hope by default because I have to have hope in something, but I do have a lot of hope in ARA. I mean, the structure, I've never been in a group that's had this interesting a structure to try to help us build analysis, build trust, build interpersonal stuff, and actually be action-oriented and change the world we live in.

Joel: What kind of community outreach is ARA involved in?

Jonna: Not as much as I'd like. All of our fliers, literature, invites people to meetings. I think that's great. We work in coalition with other groups. I'd like to see it get a lot broader.

Joel: What directions would you like to see it take, community-wise?

Jonna: Everything. I guess my priorities are working with different communities of people of color, becoming an actual ally in their struggle for self-determination.

Joel: How can we do this?

Jonna: If I had the map, joel, we would've been doing it a long time ago. Um, by walking our talk. By actually showing different communities of color that we are a good ally to them. We can do that as white people by figuring out our stake in white supremacy and fighting to bring it down. More specifically, by going to the boat landings, by putting our bodies on the line. . . going to demonstrations, helping to support them in their struggles as well as doing our own thing in our own community that fights racism. By supporting queers bashing back, by making a presence at queer pride and supporting the self-determination of that community.

Joel: What are some of the limits of ARA, organizationally and effectiveness?

Jonna: Well, we grew up in a society that taught us to be oppressors, so that really limits us until we figure out our oppressor identities and how to undo them and to be allies of the people that we oppress. Organizationally and structurally, well, we're not as big as I'd like us to be, and the more people involved the more we can do, hopefully.

Joel: Well, look at this example: we're very democratic, but it takes us a long time to make decisions. It takes us a long time to even decide when to have meetings. Sometimes when I'm in the meetings I have a sense that this democratic process. . . I'm kind of worried that it's white centered, because I can't imagine some homeboys sitting in our meetings and quickly walking out, saying, this is boring bullshit.

Chris: It's become a debate society.

Joel: Well, I don't know about that. What are your thoughts on that?

Jonna: Well, I don't think it's a debate society.

[the tape ended here. . .]

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KIERAN CONTINUED. . .

think I have a disproportionate amount of power within the group. So this fucking sucks, I think about it all the time and I try and figure out cos I think if I say I don't like an idea I think that has more weight than if someone else said that and it's a really fucking difficult thing.

Chris: Do people look up to you as the leader of the group?

Kieran: Sometimes that happens. I try and take distance sometimes. I'm sure there's similar problems within Profane Existence or with any kind of group. I think that one thing about anarchists is that anarchists try and recognize that there is that problem of people looking to a leader; you're trained to look for leaders your whole life, you're trained to look to someone else not yourself. I think it's important that anarchists really try to refuse that role, which doesn't mean being irresponsible, it means not pretending they have all the answers and trying to encourage other people to take power, to share some of the skills you have like writing leaflets or talking to people, fighting. That's really important.

Joel: I notice sometimes in the meetings that you do check yourself and I think you do a really good job of it, but I also don't always think it's so bad to have people who have experience and have knowledge and you have a lot and you're a pretty clear thinker. If it's like "Kieran's not here we can't have a meeting," then it's a big problem, but I don't necessarily think that some role figures are too bad and I think that you do a really good job.

Kieran: You know it's...so...I don't know...fuck. I mean I don't know... fuck. It feels good that you say that but I notice there's times like I'll catch myself, like someone will say "Well, what do we do?" and I'll just feel like I have to have an answer even though I don't in my head. It's like "I always have answers so I must have an answer now," and I'll just spit something out and I'll be like "why did I say that, I haven't thought about this, what gives me the right to always think I have an answer?" So I really appreciate you thinking that I'm doing a good job and stuff but I think there's totally that mentality that sinks in that people are depending on you and shit like that so you have to constantly think of that.

Chris: Is our interviewing Kieran just another sign of people looking to him as a leader?

Joel: That's a good question and Kieran had those reservations about it when I first asked him about it. Do people call you on it in ARA? Do they say you're taking too much power?

Kieran: Sometimes they do, in different ways. This one member of ARA would always oppose anything I said. It got to be so annoying but it was good too; it was mainly just because he wanted to question anything that came from anyone with some sort of authority and that person sort of has some authority within the group as well. It was cool, it was a hard struggle, and people do. . . like if I say something stupid or if I say something sexist I don't get away with it.

Joel: It just seems like you're never gonna get rid of these power relations, there's always gonna be people with more experience and anytime a new comer comes into the group there's always gonna be those feelings of discomfort and there's always gonna be those who are a little more clear thinking and have a little more background. These problems are perpetual. They always have to be dealt with.

Kieran: A lot of communist groups recognize the same thing we're talking about, too, and then they make these people the official leaders, which means they have a say in all kinds of things that maybe they *don't* have any experience in and they make decisions for other people on the basis that they have experience in one area. I think what revolutionary anarchists do, or should do, is we see the same things, but we say if we really want to change society than we have to challenge those things constantly, and it gets to be a fucking pain in the ass. I get really defensive when people criticize me, but you know, a few days later I'll recognize it and say, That was really good that it happened. The whole deal with people who have more experience. . . I have more experience in some ways than other people but I don't have more experience in other ways than a lot of people. Like, we're putting out a zine now, and I don't have any experience in that, and if I was to dictate how to run the zine because I have more experience in fighting or whatever, that would be really fucked up.

Joel: How well do you think ARA deals with internal things: sexism, racism, homophobia?

Kieran: I think we still got a long ways to go but I think it's something that's on the table. When someone brings it up at a meeting it's not like no one's ever heard of it before. People recognize that if that goes down, something is going to be said about it. It's still a drag.

Chris: Isn't that kinda what the group exists for, too?

Kieran: Yeah, cos if we're going to be truly anti-racist that means confronting those things within us too. That's the whole trick of the system they've got this in our head. We've got a long ways to go but there are wimmin who play prominent roles in ARA, there's a lot of wimmin in the group, there's a lot of queers in the group. There's not a lot of black people and that's probably the main area, there's a number of black people who have come through the group. I think some of it is because it's such a white group. So it's a question, do we think we should become a multi-racial group or do we think we should be mostly a white group that organizes white people to be against racism, which I don't think is bad either. We have to figure out which one it is. It's a weird thing. I don't think we should say we're a white group only cos a lot of black folks, like a lot of black punks or black kids that are involved in subcultures that are mostly white will come around to something like this before they come around to say some black nationalist thing or like black feminists.

Chris: So it should be multi-racial.

Joel: I think class comes into it.

Kieran: A lot of things come into it. One thing that Malcolm X said was like this white womyn came to him all upset cos she just heard him speak and she was like "I really hate racism, I want to do something" and at the time he told her, Get the fuck away from me, I don't want to deal with some crying white student, but later he said that what he should have said was we need you, we need you to go to white people, other white people and you need to fight racism, cos it's in our interests, too. I believe it [racism] is the main pillar that makes the US structures different from the rest of the world's systems. What holds the US system up the most is white supremacy. Starting from the very beginning with the first slaves in the colonies here there were white and African slaves. There was no such thing as racism in the way it exists now. The landowning colonists created an ideology of white supremacy. People aren't born with the shit, they created it to divide the white slaves from the black slaves. . . What they [landowning colonists] did is they gave them [the white slaves] privileges over the black people: they let some of the white slaves or white servants be the managers of the black slaves, they let them get more food. So that's basically what's going on in this society, it's that white people are kissing ass to the ruling class and getting paid for it. They're getting little privileges, not much but they're getting a little bit. A lot of times at work you wonder why does this person kiss ass, they're not getting anything from it; they're just getting a little bit. That's basically what's up. It's that white people are kissing ass to this system instead of uniting with black people and I think it's really important for people to convince other white people to stop kissing ass and to join with black people cos black people have torn it up in this country a number of times, they have burned down sections of every city in this fucking country and with most black people you can have a conversation about hating cops or hating your job and it's just natural, people totally agree with you. We have to convince other white people, especially white working class people that their interests are not with the white bosses but with black folks in general. So that's why I think our main job is to be convincing black people to become anarchists or is it convincing white people to become anti-racist.

Chris: Anti-racist anarchists. . . I think there's a weird thing in middle class white amerika. People are taught to be afraid of black people and the black community and the inner city cos that's where the media says...crime...murder...death...auto theft...and I find that right down to the anti-racist sub-culture. Say I live on 15th and Park or Pleasant and 25th and people ask me where I live and I go I live on 25th and Pillsbury, people go "Oh, that's a bad neighborhood," when it's not that bad, it's a neighborhood, it's where people live and are trying to survive and barely scrape by, it's where governments and systems pack everybody in, so how do we stop that kind of internal racism?

Kieran: It's a good question. The propaganda is thick. You're totally right about the media the way they talk about neighborhoods being bad is directly related to how many black people live in that neighborhood. That's how the neighborhood is determined bad or good. I think one thing for any kind of white person that is into radical stuff — I think there's not enough of this in the anarchist community and it sort of reflects how white we are — is to like if you're a radical in the US and you don't know about the black liberation movement it's something you should find out about. It's a movement that is. . . it totally makes you appreciate the struggles of black people. It may break down some of the propaganda that the media feeds you about black people because you see this incredible movement in the South starting out in the fifties and early sixties. It had all these weird influences, christianity and pacifism, but they also held huge mass meetings in churches. It had some real democratic influences, a lot like worker's counsels that a lot of anarchists point to in Europe. These black folks were making decisions and now the US media holds up Martin Luther King but people used to scream at him and say "we're not pacifists anymore!" and all this stuff like, "We need guns!" There were these huge democratic movements and millions of people were involved in law breaking, purposeful law breaking in this country. Anarchists don't know enough about it, we don't know how to talk about it, we don't have an analysis of it and that's really detrimental to us cos it was this huge movement and then as the sixties progressed you had black bond organizations springing up in this country and they had a base. They could go and hide in the projects, they could travel from safe house to safe house. That's something that white radicals can't do yet cos we don't have that base of support. And then the riots in the sixties when Martin Luther King was killed; there were riots in 160 cities. It happened the day Martin Luther King was killed so you can't just say, "Oh, it was hot, people were pissed off." It was a political riot. Martin Luther King was killed and cities burned, including north Minneapolis. People don't know about that. You shouldn't turn black people into this deity, black people are just like any people. They're fucked and they're good and they're everything. The struggle is so amazing to me.

Joel: What about other cultures?

Kieran: I think native struggles are especially important in Minneapolis cos AIM (American Indian Movement) was based here, this is where it started.

Chris: They were a counterpart to the Black Panthers originally, weren't they?

Kieran: They sort of modeled themselves after the Black Panthers. In a lot of ways they had similarities. There's a lot of anti-authoritarian sentiment within the Native American community, like Leonard Peltier. I don't know if you know about Freedom Now, the posters that said, "Face reality: there are political prisoners in the US." Freedom Now was basically run by nationalists and white anti-imperialist communists and they weren't recognizing some anarchist prisoners like Larry Giddings and some other people and Leonard Peltier said if you don't recognize them you can't use my name. And he's the most famous political prisoner. The reason why is because when he was first in prison the white people who supported him most were the anti-authoritarians and anarchists. I think it is really important that we continue that and learn from that struggle. It's really important to recognize the black liberation movement as key to the struggle in the US. It was the black struggle in the sixties that sparked the white anti-war movement, the white wimmin's movement in this country. Both learned lessons from the black movement and put those into effect and in every struggle the most radical part of it is usually the black folks. In worker's struggles it's black workers who take things the farthest. In the wimmin's movement it's black wimmin who are pulling things out the farthest.

Joel: Do you think the direct democratic, really slow-paced organizational structure of ARA is one reason why it's mostly a white organization? Do you think ARA's structure is kind of a white middle class thing?

Kieran: I don't think anarchism is a middle class thing, I don't think democracy is, but I think, from our experiences, the way we talk and act probably has some of that wrapped up in it.

Chris: So it's kind of socialized?

Kieran: Yeah, the black people that come in there probably feel like they have to talk a certain way, have to act a certain way even though none of us are saying that. It's just that the system is so ingrained, I think it's a real challenge. There is an issue though of black people organizing in the same kinds of ways but I think there's just a real difference in how people talk and how people act. We have to fight those kinds of middle class nicey nice ways of doing stuff within our group in order to make it a place where black people feel comfortable.

Joel: I just imagine some crips coming into a meeting saying, "What's this? You guys are arguing twenty minutes and raising hands over when the meeting's gonna be!"

Kieran: It'd be really frustrating and I think a lot of people feel uncomfortable with raising hands and shit like that so you have to figure out a way in which you can do it, and maybe the sub-groups will be small enough that they'll be able to do it another way, but I think it's really true that in these kinds of groups. . . cos at the Baldies meetings we never had a facilitator and people just talked, everyone interrupted each other, the subject changed with every person talking, we couldn't get anything done or decided on, it was total chaos and people just got to spit out what they were thinking but it didn't get discussed or talked about. So I'm all for experimenting with different ways of doing stuff but I'm just real skeptical of trying to do it without facilitators right now because it just ends up being really non-democratic where the people who are the loudest get heard and the people who just want to spit something out spit something out. I think you're right, people who have never been in that type of meeting situation will be frustrated by it.

Joel: Is ARA a revolutionary organization?

Kieran: I think for a lot of purposes it's good to not put that out on an ARA letterhead or on an ARA sticker because I think there's a lot of people who hate racism who don't know what's up with revolution. I don't think ARA should be a front group for anything but I think it should be a place, a broad group where people from off the street can join if they agree to fight racism and also fight other stuff and are ready for direct action or support direct action. I think most people in ARA are revolutionaries and I hope that continues.

Joel: Do you think ARA has the potential to attract a mass base?

Kieran: Yeah I think it does. Out of all the political groups in the Twin Cities right now ARA has the most potential. Within the times right now, 1991, things are not too great on the political scene. We don't have mass movements of a lot of people, we have mass movements of like dozens of people or like hundreds of people and ARA has dozens of people and it's getting bigger. We can mobilize people, we're still learning how to but we're one group that can mobilize people and I think part of that is because the anarchist movement has really tried to build it and I think that's really good. Before you came here, Joel, there was a lot of sectarianism between the different anarchists, like RABL, Profane Existence, AYF and the Youth Greens, people really bickering. There was this attempt at anarchist forums and it ended up breaking up. One thing about ARA is like you look around the room and a lot of the time you see ex-RABL people, Profane people, AYF people and Youth Green people, a lot of anarchists, people from the different wimmin's groups that have happened and non-affiliated people and that's one thing that I think has built ARA is that anarchists have really come together around it and hopefully that can continue with TCAF (Twin Cities Anarchist Federation) and other kinds of formations. Now that we've consolidated the anarchist community around it we need to move it out of the anarchist community and start reaching people who don't know who Conflict is...

Joel: You mean there's people like that out there?

Chris: How do we deal with new people in the group, how do you trust them when they could be infiltrators?

Kieran: That's a really hard question that I don't have the answer to. It's especially hard over on the east side *[of St. Paul, a racist stronghold. -ed.]*. Every white person who wants to join, I'm gonna be like, "Who is this guy?" Basically, I think the east side is gonna have to implement some kind of security. The east side ARA may have to be some sort of membership organization like to be a member you have to do more than just show up at a meeting; you have to fill out something and we have to be able to call your home and your boss and make sure you are who you say you are. Not like call your boss and ask if you're a good guy but find out if the place you're working is really the place you say you're working and find out who your friends are and stuff like that and I think if an organization's gonna be somewhat underground and somewhat above ground that's what you have to do and that's what east side ARA's gonna be like.

Chris: So should Uptown ARA and University ARA also implement some security measures?

Kieran: Yeah, they probably should. I don't know how but we need to start talking about that.

Joel: What kind of things do you think are necessary, organization wise, to build a revolutionary movement in the US?

Kieran: That's like "the question." For one thing I think there has to be a certain autonomy for each group. It becomes a fact that if we're gonna defeat the system we have to have some sort of coordination cos this is the strongest military might in the world. It's not gonna give up by each of us just pecking at it or if it does it's just gonna be burning and chaos and nothing new is gonna come of it. So how do you do that? I believe in anarchist, federal forms of organization. I think what this ARA subgroup can be is autonomous, but with the same principles. I don't think you have to let everyone and their brother join ARA just because they want to. If someone's like, "We should go bash the black Muslims because they are racist, too," I don't think that's in line with what ARA is doing. Those people can do whatever they want to, but they can't do it under ARA's name. How a broader movement can be developed is by building collectives in every city and being parts of mass movements; anarchists not just going out there and preaching "anarchy, anarchy!" because you don't prove anything to anyone. You don't prove how anarchism works. You prove that anarchism works by getting involved in the struggles that normal people face and you try to offer anarchist solutions, build counterinstitutions that will serve people, whether it's shelter or food or self-defense. What anarchists have to do is teach people how to do it themselves. This culture is so against people doing anything for themselves, it's really a struggle.

Joel: Do you see anything going on right now, any "window of opportunity" that anarchists can take and turn into a mass movement?

Kieran: Yeah, I think there's a number of mass movements anarchists could have a big presence in. In the Twin Cities, anarchists are significantly involved in only one big movement, and that's the anti-fascist/anti-racist movement among whites, and that's ARA and some other stuff. I think there's potential for anarchists to have a mass influence in the radical women's movement and the abortion rights movement, in the queer liberation movement, in the homeless movement, in environmental stuff, in anti-imperialist stuff. If five people sat down and said we're going to go into this movement and work, there'd be some potential there.

[A big thank you to Jonna and Kieran for their help.]

ANTI-RACIST ACTION

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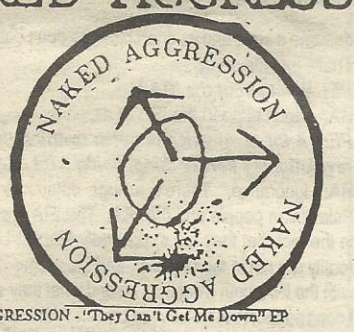

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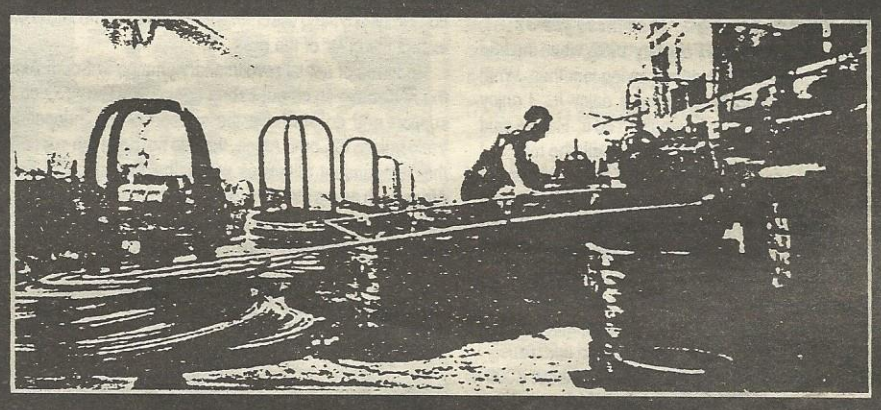

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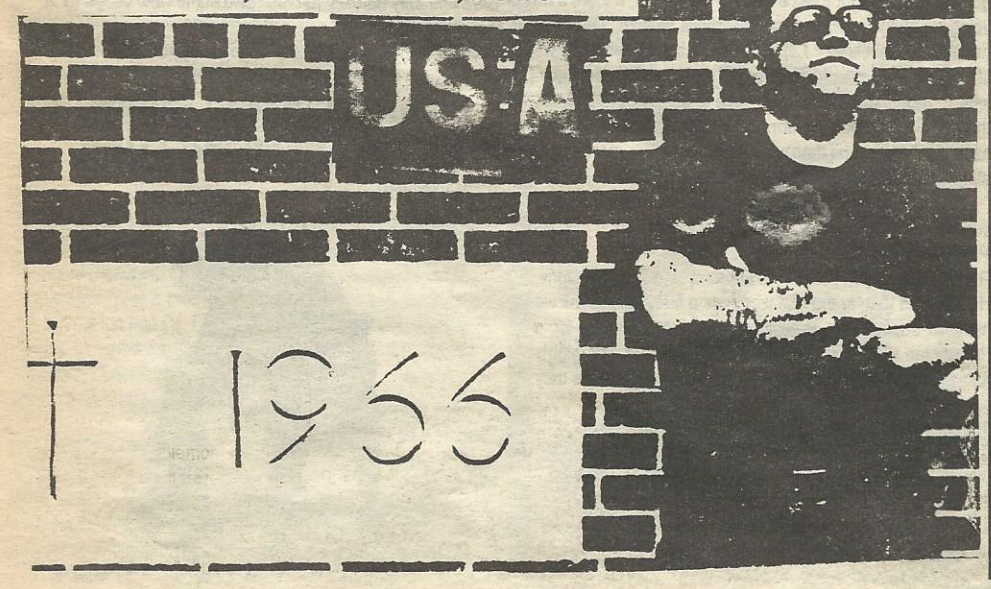

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Assault (with intent to free)

a d v e r t i s e m e n t :

CHANGES CHANGES CHANGES CHANGES CHANGES CHANGES CHANGES CHANGES
Its been over four years since we started *AWIF* 'zine way back in October of 1987, and though our magazine has gone through various size and format changes, now is the time to radically change the focus. When we started out as a small anarchist punk zine from Mississippi, just printing an interview alone by punk bands was enough to assure that emotions would be stirred in the land of cotton (not to mention the fact that we often attacked the religious and 'moral' values of the South). But now... we don't live in Mississippi anymore. Two thirds of us reside in California and the other in Minneapolis. Our surroundings have changed, our politics have changed, our lives have changed... and the new *AWIF* will be a bit different than the past issues.

Starting with issue number ten, the main editorial duties and shitwork have been turned over to Tait and Skull from Newt. Newt has been working on *AWIF* the longest and at this point in time, feels a bit burned out by doing the major shitwork on *AWIF*, working with Profane Existence, and the many other projects he does. Thus, Tait and Skull have volunteered to take it over and keep it going. The underlying theme of our new issue is "Heresy in the Punk Scene," and we hope to challenge ourselves to make the many changes necessary for survival (and revolution) within our own community. Look for issue number ten in the spring.

We have a new postal office box in San Francisco for magazine related correspondence. We can be reached at P.O. Box 423592 / San Francisco, CA 94102. To order our projects by mail, get it from P.E.; they're cheaper, faster, and more reliable.

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POLITICAL ASYLUM

Interview by joel with help from Paul of Think for Yourself (thanks!). Answers by Ramsey.

PE: Political Asylum has been around for a long time (how long exactly). What keeps you going and why have we seen so little vinyl from you in all these years?

RA: I've been doing this since February 1982, when me and a couple friends from school started playing together. What keeps me going? Basically, because I enjoy it. I enjoy playing music. If I didn't enjoy it I wouldn't do it. Having said that, I also appreciate other things that go with the music. I would have never gone abroad to most of the countries I've been to if it weren't for the band, as well as the different cultures and people I've met, and different political situations. Why's there been so little vinyl? I've never thought it's been that important, to be honest. We're not making music as a career move. In our first three or four years of existence we actually released three studio demos, so we were getting the music out. They actually sold ridiculously well, considering they were tapes. We sold about 6000 copies of all three releases combined, which is more than most groups who do records, so we had no desire to release records just for the sake of doing records. We have released a few records.

PE: As one of the few European bands to have toured the U.S., what were your initial expectations of the states and its punk community and how did reality reflect or contradict those expectations?

RA: *Maximumrocknroll,* although it serves a very fine purpose, gives a very distorted view of punk. The British scene reports are a good example. From MRR, you'd think that punk is this really big thing in America, that it's really happening and really together and that's patently not the case. It's certainly no better than in Britain. Impressions of the U.S. punk scene. . . It's very, very young. That might partly be because we only played all-ages shows so therefore we were maybe playing to a different audience, but it was a lot younger than in Britain. I'd say people over 18 are in a minority, while in Britain most people are 18 to 24. While to a certain extent we were playing more political gigs, due to the people we played with and the people we dealt with, punk and hardcore seemed a lot less political there than in Britain, but then again that might just be because of the Crass phenomenon in Britain the trappings of the punk fashion contain some politics, while in America they just don't. The whole straightedge thing was very weird, very disturbing. Very right-wing, very nationalistic, a jock-mentality, if you like. We didn't actually play any straightedge shows but I went to one and it was terrible. There were Nazi skinheads who seemed to be mates with all the straightedgers, and that sort of thing.

PE: Why do you think that's accepted as being okay in America?

RA: Well, it's accepted in Britain, it's just in America it's more open.

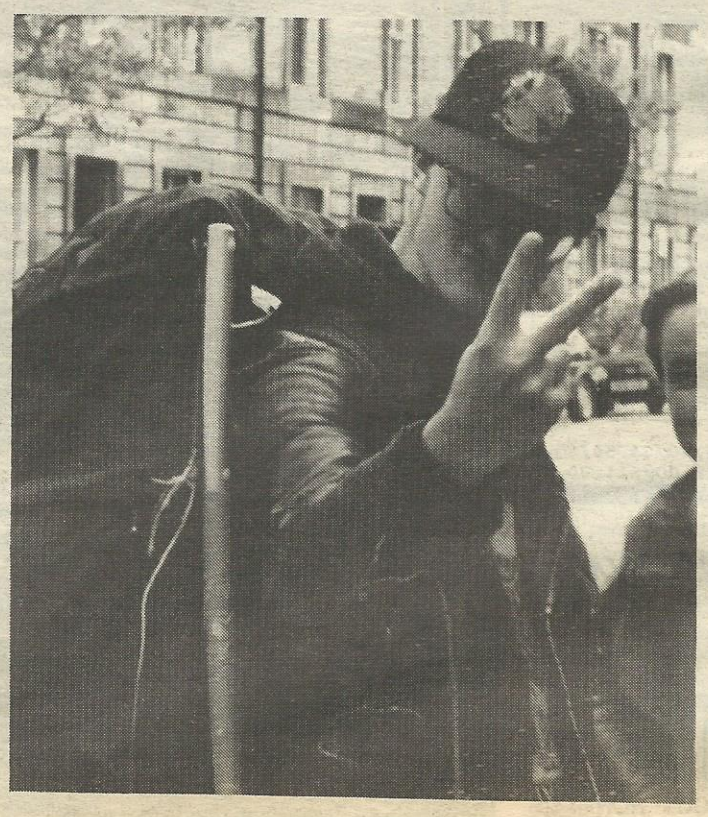
PE: Then why do you think it's accepted in general?

RA: Well, remember punk is young, male, and white, and if you're young, male, and white then you're not likely going to be bothered by skinheads or fascists, so most people (in punk) don't see it as a problem. They don't care, basically. Again, for most people, punk is just a youth fashion. As I say, I think the main difference, in terms of the political content, between Britain and America is in Britain part of the trappings of the youth fashion is paying lip service to part of the politics, be it vegetarianism, anti-war, whatever, and that's about all it is. There's probably as much acceptance of fascism on a face-to-face level in Britain as there is in America.

PE: Now that Nelson Mandela is free, the African National Congress is gaining in legitimacy across the globe. I know you have some problems with ANC programs and tactics; could you explain some of them? Do you feel they (ANC) will make life better for blacks in South Africa?

RA: As an anarchist, someone who believes in people organizing their own lives, the ANC are fundamentally opposed to this. Some of their rhetoric may be anticapitalist in the same way that some of the rhetoric of the South African Communist party — which is closely allied with the ANC — is anticapitalist, but if as anarchists we agree that communism as it is practiced in the world today (which is rapidly disintegrating, fortunately) is basically state capitalism, then the ANC is not anticapitalist. The ANC several years ago started talking with big business. Basically, the ANC want power, and to do this entails continuing the investment in the South African economy by multinational companies, and they're quite prepared to accept this. . . For the average black in South Africa, it doesn't matter whether you have a white boss or a black boss, and if the ANC get into power, the economy will continue exactly the way it is. There will be the same companies, the same gold mines, the same diamond mines, the same blacks working in the same factories for the same shit wages. That's the way capitalism works, and the ANC don't want any fundamental revolutionary change, so no I don't think anything will change [if the ANC come into power] except the color of the boss.

In terms of actual revolutionary change in South Africa, the ANC have come out strong against it. The ANC do not support and do not have the support of the independent trade unions of South Africa, they do not have the support of the independent initiatives within the townships of South Africa such as the street committees in Alexandria, and other people genuinely trying to organize their own lives. The ANC have come out totally against them strongly, and the ANC are and always have been an elitist middle class organization. Until recently, to be a member of the armed wing of the ANC, you had to have the educational equivalent of a university degree to be a fucking guerilla! You can't get more exclusive and middle class than that. Until the ANC were legalized, they were exiled and had very little influence in South Africa. People organized the resistance themselves. Whether it was people going on strike, organizing the townships, or fighting the police, it was organized by the people themselves. The ANC, because they did not control this, because they want power, completely condemned it. The uprising in 1985 which caused a state of emergency that lasted until 1989 was condemned by Nelson Mandela as "infantile". The ANC don't support any resistance which they don't control. I don't see how any anarchist can support them at all.



PE: Why do you think these rival black factions are fighting each other in South Africa?

RA: Apartheid in South Africa is a product of capitalism. It is not inherently a product of racism. Capitalism works with a small managerial class and a large pool of unskilled labor. Apartheid was a direct construct of this, i.e. the white working class was bought off by getting their managerial roles. They became the overseers and blacks became the mass of exploited laborers. Blacks suffer because of capitalism. Racism is the divide-and-rule tactic used to institute this particular form of capitalism. Therefore, to destroy the general problems of blacks and apartheid you have to destroy the system of capitalism.

The factionalism within the blacks in South Africa has to do with various historical and tribal reasons. Partly, the Inkartha movement, with Chief Buthelezi, is a product of being bought off under capitalism, pitting one group of blacks against another. South Africa as a country has many different — I don't like to use the word tribes, that has a very patronizing sound — African peoples within what is geographically the state of South Africa. The Inkartha movement of Buthelezi is Zulu, which is numerically the largest group and historically the strongest, like in the Bolo wars, etc. The Inkartha movement was legitimized [by the South African government] partly to buy off various black leaders. The two strongest black factions, ethnically, politically, and militarily, are the Zulus, supported by the Inkartha movement and Buthelezi, and the ANC, which are largely supported by the Xhosa who are another African people with a different language, culture, etc. And again, it's a power struggle between the two over who will get to be the new black bosses.

PE: Do you know if there is any sort of anarchist movement in South Africa, especially within black resistance circles?

RA: Depends on what you call anarchist. As I said, there are all sorts of movements. I don't think any of them explicitly refer to themselves as anarchist and I think that's irrelevant. To me what's important is people controlling their own lives, people resisting. There have always been several movements, which means they've been in conflict with the ANC and the Inkartha movement. Specifically, there are the independent black trade unions who have been organizing illegally since the late '60s, the independent groups of youth, township committees, street committees, people's courts, a whole quite sophisticated system of, call it what you will, people power. The whole township committee system, where they're organizing their own street lighting, their own sewage systems, their own rubbage uplift, is a very sophisticated method of self-organizing, which again the ANC totally opposes because it's outside their control. So yes, there are all sorts of autonomous groups, often acting together, basically what I would call anarchist; whether they call themselves anarchist is irrelevant.

PE: More generally, why do you feel there are so few black (or Asian or Native or Hispanic) anarchists? As a history student, are you aware of any anarchist movement or individuals among people of color other than white?

RA: That's largely true, there are very few non-white anarchists, though in Southeast Asia and the far East they have their own completely independent tradition of anarchism, in Korea, in Japan, which still functions today. South America has historically also had a large anarchist presence, whether it's Zapata in Mexico or the anarchist unions in Argentina and Paraguay. More recently, anarchism suffered from the success of authoritarian socialism, of Marxism, of the Bolshevik revolution, because people looked to Bolshevism and Marxist-Leninism as a solution to their problems. Also, anarchism has failed to address the problems of national liberation. I think it's fair to say that in North America, having gone through Marxist-Leninism, a lot of black activists are now turning away from it. A lot of Black Panthers are realizing the fallacies of Stalinism and are now very much turning towards anarchism. Some of them are quite explicit. The writings of Lorenzo Erwin, for example, is quite explicit in its anarchism. Among all oppressed peoples is a long history of radicalism. A lot of them wouldn't call themselves anarchists, but as far as I'm concerned, the course they took, the struggles they fought, are as far as I'm concerned anarchist goals — people's self-determination, anti-authoritarian, non-hierarchical. I mean, anarchism is just a label. There's many black activists, many of whom would probably call themselves Marxists, whose theory and practice I actually don't have any disagreement with at all. I think there's a danger to get stuck too much with this whole labelling.

PE: Do you support national liberation struggles, or are they antithetical to your anarchist beliefs?

RA: Yes, I support anyone fighting for self-determination. The whole problem with national liberation for anarchists is to not get involved or have some input. We can't criticize them [national liberation struggles] for not being pure anarchist and when something goes wrong say, "See, I told you so, they're not pure anarchists." I mean, obviously things are going to go wrong if there's no anarchist input, if there's no voices fighting for what we as anarchists believe. I think we have to get involved. I think as a matter of solidarity we should support people fighting for self-determination anywhere, regardless. I think we have to support the Intifada, those in South Africa, all forms of national liberation struggle as far as they go, and then we have to, if you like, "steer them along" paths more amicable to what we believe.

. . . I support the Palestinian people. I'm not sure that I support the PLO.

PE: Why not?

RA: Because I don't believe in authority and state solutions. Having said that, in the real world, as a first step, I think we have to support the Palestinian people's demand for a Palestinian state. There's no use in being high and mighty and saying we don't support the Palestinians because they demand a state and as anarchists we don't believe in states. That's just ludicrous.

PE: What about the IRA?

RA: I don't support the IRA at all, either.

PE: A lot of Americans seem to think they're a very revolutionary sort of thing, doing a lot of good. Why?

RA: Ignorance. There's a huge difference between the Palestinian people and the IRA. The IRA are like the ANC in the fact that they are supposedly Marxist-Leninist and in reality are not in the slightest, and I fundamentally disagree with the IRA, both what they do and what they say. Because I don't support the IRA doesn't mean I don't support the Irish people and their struggle for self-determination. To the extent that we don't live in these countries, it's all irrelevant. Whether or not I support the IRA is not going to affect the struggle in Ireland at all.

[Ramsey talks further about national liberation struggles and anarchism until he comes to this interesting little tidbit. . .]

RA: Well, I do think that if you believe certain things, that makes you an anarchist. If you don't, then you can't be. I mean, anarchism does not mean chaos. Anarchism, to me, is a form of organization. Ultimately, it's to help people to organize their lives to have a better life. Now that obviously includes certain things and excludes certain things. It excludes lunatic individualists because you can't do what you want if that involves hurting other people. To me that's just common sense, it's not a problem to me. I don't think we [the anarchist movement] should accept anyone [into our movement] just because s/he calls him or herself an anarchist.

PE: Ramsey, you do a lot of work with AK Distribution; could you explain what it is?

RA: The AK empire consists of one AK Press, which publishes various anarchist and associated books, AK distribution, which distributes books to the trade — retail, shops — and as a mailorder service. We have a catalog of several thousand books on a wide variety of topics: anarchism, socialism, philosophy, history, feminism, comics, zines, radical literature, etc.

PE: Do you feel it's wrong for you (or anyone else) to make money off your independent, alternative ventures, such as AK?

RA: I don't think there's anything fundamentally wrong with making money out of alternative ventures; in fact, quite the opposite. I think if the alternative ventures are to be genuinely viable and a real alternative that works, we have to be self-supporting and self-funding. I think part of the reason alternative ventures consistently fail is because they rely on self-exploitation, which means either part-time work or unpaid work or work done after your "real job" which you have to work to eat. It means people are always getting bored or tired or burned out because they can't give all their efforts to these tasks. I think it's essential if we're serious about our politics that we do start paying ourselves. I think that's crucial.

In 1991, AK Press published five new books: *Terrorizing the Neighborhood* by Noam Chomsky, copublished in the U.S. with Pressure Drop Press; *The Bigger Tory Vote: The Covert Sequestration of the Bigotry Vote* by Nick Toxic, about the fascist influence in British party politics; *Leonard's Shorter Catechism* by Tom Leonard, a series of questions and answers about the Gulf War; a reprint of Stuart Home's *The Assault On Culture,* which documents the avante-garde radical art movements in the twentieth century; and *The Art Strike Papers,* also by Stuart Home. By the time you read this, AK will have also published *Poll Tax Rebellion* by Danny Burns and *Unfinished Business: The Politics of the Class War Federation,* by Class War. Future books include Martin Sprouse's *Sabotage in the American Workplace* in February and *Ecstatic Incisions,* a collection of the collage artwork of Freddie Baer, as well as a new book, *Self-Determination and Power,* by Chomsky.

Since the interview was conducted, AK has been turned into a legal worker's co-op. Living by what he's preaching, Ramsey has worked amazingly fucking hard so that AK is now a collectively-run enterprise that actually pays three full-time workers (including Ramsey). AK Press hopes to open a London office in the near future and perhaps even a U.S. office in 1993 if Ramsey's plans to move to San Francisco work out. Other plans include opening a book shop in AK's home base, Edinburgh, and "to start paying ourselves a decent wage!"

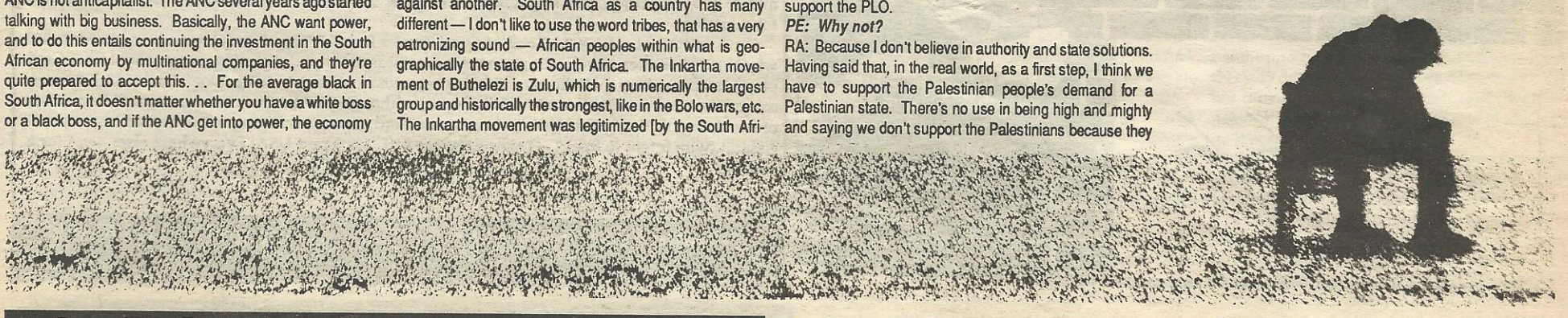
If this news of the ever-expanding empire of AK press isn't enough, there's new news on Political Asylum as well. All the band members except Ramsey now live in Holland, but the band is continuing on. They started playing gigs again last summer, touring northern Europe. They plan to tour more in 1992 and they actually (gasp!) have some new songs for a (gasp! gasp!) new LP.

If you'd like to write to Ramsey or get a copy of AK's massive and strongly recommended catalog, write to:

3 Balmoral Place / Stirling / FK8 2RD / Scotland / UK

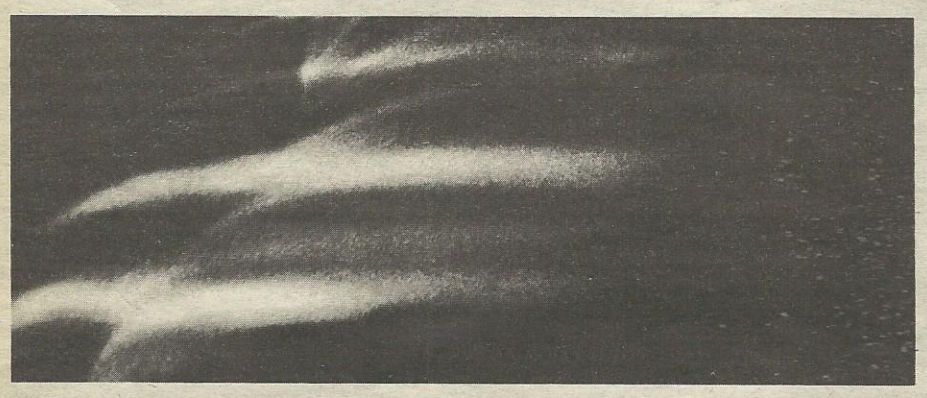
Thanks Ramsey!

When I was fifteen I probably would have said hitting a fascist won't change his views and therefore it's wrong in the sense of changing things, and I probably still agree with that. However, I wouldn't hit a fascist to change his views, I'd hit him to defend myself. I'd hit him because he's a fascist, not because I wanted to give him a political education.



"Something capable of causing oblivion of grief and suffering . . ."

the commonwealth



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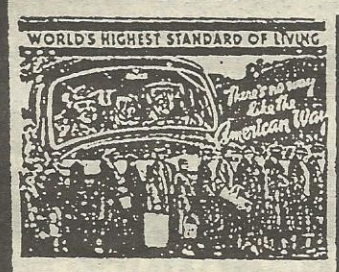

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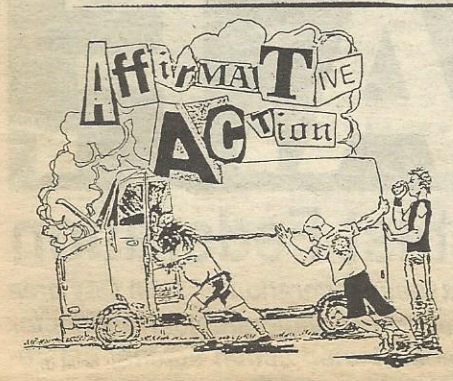

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WHY MINNEAPOLIS IS SO PUNK

City pride notwithstanding, it's pretty safe to say that Minneapolis is one hell of a cool place to live if you're into any aspects of underground culture. What we've attempted to do here is pull together some of the primary resources available to the loose community of punx, queers, wierdos, degenerates, anarchist-types, etc. who call this city their home. By no means does this cover everything in Minneapolis available to the underground connoisseur, but hopefully it will provide travelers with a good guide to the city and the few local poseurs with a way out of their pathetic existence! Check future issues for more articles on the various aspects of the Minneapolis underground. - A newcomer

THE MINNEAPOLIS *FANZINE* CONNECTION

One of the cool things about this city is that you can go to quite a few of the local record and bookstores and find a shelf-full of cool, local zines. The Profane collective alone has at least five different people who have done or are currently doing other fanzines. I've been meeting quite a few really cool people in this city just through exchanging zines and having that common interest. I guess that's why they're called zines and not magazines - because that personal aspect is present. Most of the zines below have been reviewed in the last couple issues, so I'll just do a run-down of the different types of underground publications available locally.

The number of local homopunk zines has really grown in this city. The zines are usually sexually explicit, gender-challenging and include contributions from a lot of local poets, writers and graphic artists. Check out *Holy Titclamps*, *Bundle of Sticks*, *Dolo Romy* and *Swerve*. Even if you're not into the whole queer scene, you'll probably find the contents to be intriguing and, hell, you'll probably learn something, too!

Next up are what I consider the lifestyle zines. I really like these zines because they tend to include some political content while also including material about their own personal life (usually in an emotional or humorous way.) Zines in category number two would be *Lard Gore*, *Cybervision*, *Crumbly Li'l Bunny* and *The Ungovernable*. These four also cover some really cool anarchist topics.

Speaking of anarchy, in addition to *Profane Existence*, there's a few other informative anarchist zines in town. A bunch of local activists work closely with the monthly anarchist tabloid *Love and Rage* out of New York. The American version of the U.K.'s tabloid *Class War* also comes out of Minneapolis and is available all over town. Finally, Newt's zine *Assault (With Intent to Free)* is also available around town and mixes punk music with politics quite well.

The long-standing music zine *Your Flesh* is still coming out and is probably the best large music mag around. The mag does a good job of mixing pretention, elitism and cynicism with some good writing and musical variety to create a fun, irrelevant read. If anything, every new issue pisses off everyone around here, which cracks me up! A smaller music-oriented zine which is really well put together is *Another Pair of Shoes*. The editor mixes in a lot of personality, too.

The Artpolice, Ye Olde Stinkhammer Press and *Marvelous Martha's* comprise the Minneapolis area comic zine scene. While presenting many local artists' work, all three of these keep their prices below that of many comic books I've seen that aren't as aesthetically pleasing. A zine called *Artflux* is also starting up with an emphasis on wierd comix, art etc. - send contributions or inquiries to the Profane address.

Last, but not least, are probably the world's only two glitterpunk fanzines. Dr. Funky's *Sole Vibration* follows in the platform footsteps of Big Daddy Smooth-Moves' *Spirit of '76*. Both zines sh-sh-shake the disco energy out of the '70's and into the revolutionary punk-as-fuck times which we presently find ourselves dancing in. Some of the best fashion tips available can also be found among these pages.

I also do a zine called *No External Compulsion*. I pretty much just write about whatever is going on in my life at the moment. Most of the contents are similar to what I contribute to this zine. Watch for issue #6 within a month or so!

There's other zines which I've probably forgotten about (or are just popping up at this moment,) but this list should keep you busy reading for awhile. Some good places to find these rags are at record stores (Oarfolkjoketapus, Garage D'or, Northern Lights,) bookstores (A Brother's Touch and Mayday Books,) as well as the Profane Existence house and Motor Oil cafe. And a big thank you to all you groovey Kinko's employees who are helping us subvert the system by scamming off of your machines!

—Criterion T.

LOCAL BANDS

BY CRITERION

PISSED AT THEIR ONE AND ONLY SHOW OF 1991 — Photo by Kerry Glitter

T.C.A.F.

Twin Cities Anarchist Federation

Twin Cities Anarchist Federation is a loose federation of Twin City area anarchists organizing at the community level in a nonhierarchical manner for better communication, education, and coordinated action against institutions of oppression and all forms of domination.

TCAF is a new federation, formed just a few months ago, that will hopefully be able to facilitate effectively among the various anarchist-oriented groups in the Twin Cities and to coordinate anarchist activities here. Although we've only had a few meetings, the general sentiment seems to be that a primary focus of TCAF will be to work within the community so as to expose people to anarchist forms of organization and develop deeper anarchist roots in our community. This is especially important as the amount of fascist community organizing increases. There seems to be a general feeling that it's time for anarchists to start "walking our talk," as Jonna puts it in her ARA interview. If we really want anarchism to be a strong and viable social force then we have to prove to people that anarchist principles work, which means getting our hands dirty within our communities.

An attitude that seems to be developing in TCAF meetings is that not only must we be involved in our community, we should keep our politics at an everyday, practical level. Thus far, no raging debates on the persnickety perils of poststructural parsimony for the proletariat have emerged to scare folks away. However, we have had several high quality, intelligent debates about real life issues, especially after a showing of "La toda la vida" (All Our Lives) — a video on women's roles in the Spanish Civil War — we sponsored as a fundraiser in December.

Immediate plans for TCAF include setting up an anarchist hotline (which we should have soon; we'll publish the # next issue), perhaps sponsoring a talk by a researcher of the autonomes in Germany, working on the 1992 election boycott, and some solid street work such as perhaps setting up a soup kitchen or day care or something like that.

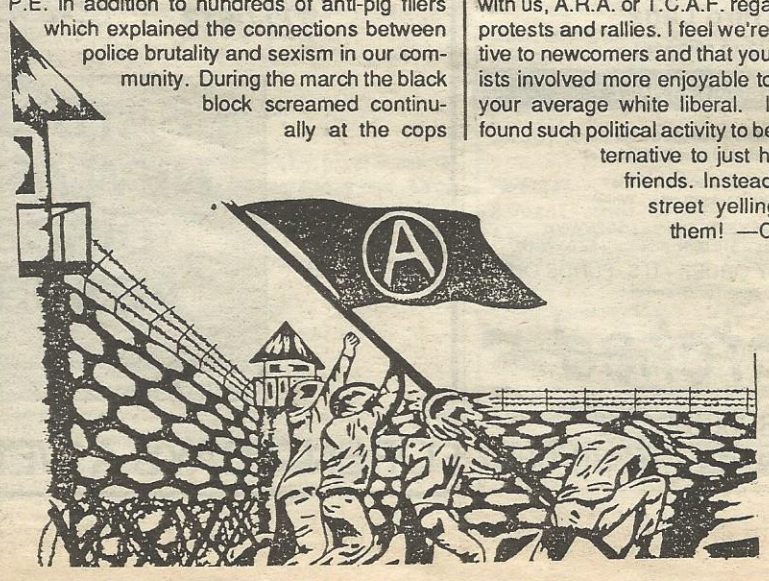
If you'd like to participate in TCAF and you're of the nonhierarchical bent, we could certainly use your help. We meet on the first and third Saturdays of every month at 7:00 PM at Mayday Books (301 Cedar Avenue, Minneapolis, on the West Bank). Call Mayday or Profane Existence if you have any other questions. —joel

POLITICAL ORGANIZING

What I feel is one of the most significant aspects of the Minneapolis underground community is the number of people willing to actually get off their butts and fuck some shit up. There have been quite a few protests lately where punx and skins have made an impressive showing and usually display the most enthusiasm (and anger!).

Probably the best example I can think of is the Take Back the Night rally held back in October. At the rally, various individuals, A.R.A. members and Profane Existence people all organized to form a black block for the march. As the march began we handed out 250 copies of P.E. in addition to hundreds of anti-pig fliers which explained the connections between police brutality and sexism in our community. During the march the black block screamed continually at the cops and parade police who continually tried to keep us in line. We also hopped and skipped down the street and handed out more literature to march spectators. At a couple of strip joints some people skanked around chanting anti-porn slogans and danced arm-in-arm. While not everyone in the block was behind this it was still a sight to see! Overall our efforts were very successful that night. About 50-75 people attended the black block, a ton of literature was handed out, some cool contacts were established and, above all, we had a rockin' good time.

I encourage more people to get in touch with us, A.R.A. or T.C.A.F. regarding upcoming protests and rallies. I feel we're all really receptive to newcomers and that you'll find the activists involved more enjoyable to work with than your average white liberal. In addition, I've found such political activity to be a refreshing alternative to just hanging out with friends. Instead, I'm out in the street yelling at cops with them! —Criterion T.



Despite the lack of venues (particularly all-ages) in this town, there are a ton of cool bands playin' around. Unfortunately, most of 'em play at clubs and my patience with high door and drink prices and hipster, pseudo-junkie assholes runs low, so I don't get a chance to see as many local bands as I would like to. What follows is what I consider some of the best local talent I've seen since moving here a few months ago. Granted, not all of these bands work with the do-it-yourself spirit in mind, but they're still worth checkin' out live.

First up we have JONESTOWN, a bunch of nice guys whose love of THE EX shines through while maintaining a high degree of originality. Their live show is energetic, rhythmic and fuckin' shake-yer-buttable! If you're into dancin' at punk shows this is the band to see 'cause every p-rock booty in the house is sh-sh-shakin'! Their debut LP should be out any day now, too.

I saw local grindgods, MISERY at this cheesy metal club awhile back and they were amazing. Even if you're not into the heavy grind sound this group will still impress the shit outta you live with their churning, bass-heavy attack. They haven't played out much lately, so don't miss the chance to see 'em if they do.

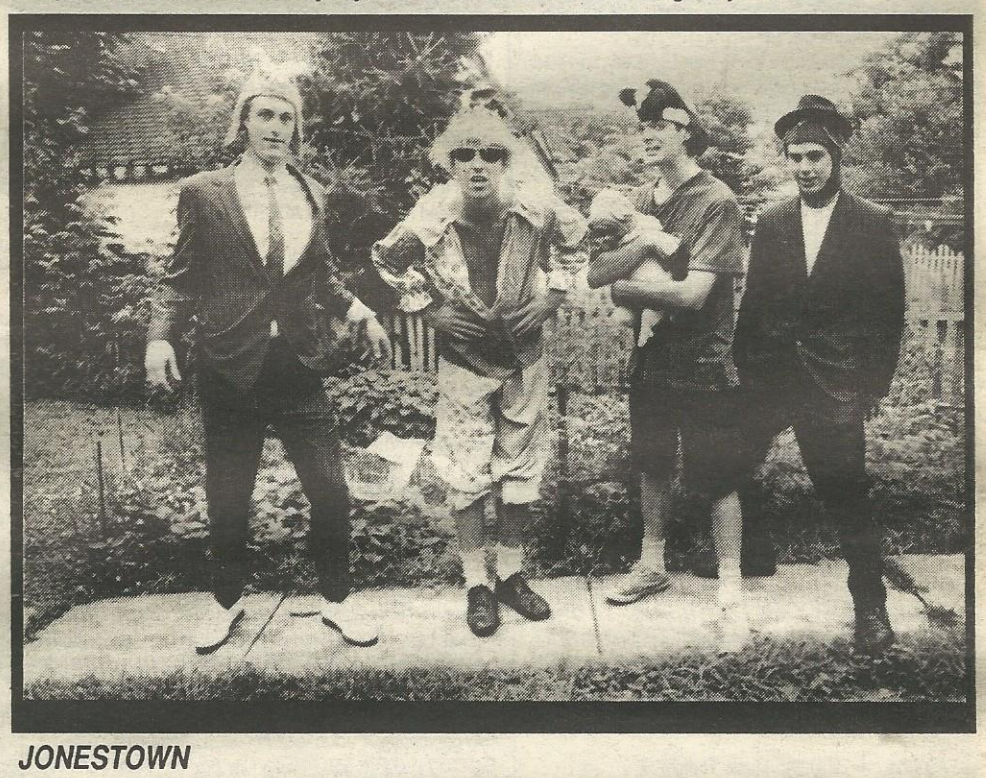
Amphetamine Reptile Records bands THE COWS, GOD BULLIES and HAMMERHEAD all put on some crazy, noisy shows and seem to play out constantly. The first two mentioned bands are both fucking amazing live with frontmen that almost seem like insane inbred brothers (one a bureacrat, the other an urban cowboy.) HAMMERHEAD seem to be getting better with every show - if you're into pulsating noise ala STEELPOLE BATHTUB, these critters are a band to check out.

BABES IN TOYLAND have gotten mighty big, which usually makes for a sweaty, frenzied, live show with a ton of people in attendance. Their sound is total, grungey noise and even if ya ain't a noise fiend, the Babes' stage presence and intense personal outlook draw you right into their world. Definitely live music that a bunch of guys couAnother cool all-femayl band is SMUT who have a sound reminiscent of CIVILIZED SOCIETY. They're relatively new and are breaking in a new drummer, but should be ready to play out again soon. Their new 7" proves that they're definitely a band to watch out for... especially live.

Those goofballs of crust, DESTROY! are always a fun bunch of headache mongers to check out. While aurally attacking the forces that be these perveyors of fine music still find time to swing their hips and sing about the fine things in life... like ramen and disco. Currently in the midst of some line-up canges, they should be ready to play again soon.

The Twin-cities' first all-zine editor band, PISSED., played their first show to a sweaty, cavorting crowd of South Minneapolis chaos punx and skins on New Year's Eve. Borrowing from the finest moments of bands like CRUCIFIX and DISCHARGE, Troll, Newt and Joel (get a nickname,Joel!) sing about anarchy an shit like that that's really important and stuff. A damn impressively tight debut show puts 'em on the p-rock map - watch for their debut, 4-song 7" soon to be released on P.E. Records.

Well that about does it for my limited knowledge of local Minneapolis bands. Sorry, but I don't dig the clubs in this town! My roommate Ken From Wisconsin tossed quite few local band names at me since he's been checking out a lot of the local band showcases going on lately. Ken was formerly the back-up vocalist for that wonderful East-Bay band BLATZ, so ya know the guy has exquisite taste in music! Anyway, he recommends checking out SCOOBY DON'T, GNEISSMAKER, DICK TIDRA, ARCWELDER, THE STYLE MONKEEZ, BIG TROUBLE HOUSE, SUPERBALL 63, DEATH SQUAD, HELLSPAWN and REGURGITATOR. Now ya know what to do: find these bands, make yourself comfortable and shake those things of yours!



JONESTOWN

COFFEESHOPS

Minneapolis is lucky enough to have a handful of different coffeeshops to hang out at. Coffeeshops are becoming the newest alternative venues because not much is needed to set one up and overhead seems to be comparatively lower than a bar or club. Motor Oil cafe in St. Paul (1168 Selby Ave.) is a good example of this. Serving just regular java, they've managed to keep coffee at $.50 a cup and refills at a nickel. In addition, Motor Oil has a nice selection of local music and mags for sale, a big rack of zines to read while you're there, a small art gallery connected which features some freaky works and $.50 oatmeal!! Combine this with a stereo playing THE GERMS or JONESTOWN and you've found one helluva great place to get wired. Friendly people and atmosphere also make this place the punkest in town. From Minneapolis, just take the 21 bus east on Lake St. into St. Paul - it drops you off right in front of the place.

Another reason why coffeeshops are so popular is everyone's dissatisfaction with the bar scene. Not only are most bars full of dirtbags, but everything's usually overpriced and if you're not 21, you can't even get in. The Cafe Global (at 1821 Riverside Ave.) is probably one of the most popular coffeeshops for people who want to chill outside of the bar scene. Open 24 hours and almost always playing some good music, you can always find this place to be a happy little haven. The place also has the most diverse crowd of people, covering punx, crazies, students, chess fanatics and a wide mix of young and old. The Riverside Cafe is also right across the street and serves free leftovers to anyone every night at 11.

The Upper Crust on the south side of Minneapolis (the corner of Nicollet and 26th St.) also has a mellow atmosphere with a wide range of people - also more crazies per square foot! Tell the counter people you don't want to hear any Cat Stevens anymore, too!

If ya dig coffeeshop atmosphere but don't groove on the caffeinated mud, check out Caffetto on the corner of 22nd St. and Lyndale. This is small, dark and comfy with some big cushy chairs to lay back in. They also serve a nice variety of fresh fruit juices, green tea and mineral waters to keep your tummy from making weird noises. If ya like a talking tummy, then check out their exceptional java.

Finally, and most importantly, is the weekly coffeehouse set up right here at the Profane Existence World Headquarters every Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. We started it in an effort to bring the people we organize and resist with together to relax and freely discuss topics of interest... and also get really fucking wired on shoplifted coffee! Also available at the coffeeshop are all of Profane's resources, everything available from the mailorder catalog, a large zine archives and an occasional pot of free food. Attendance fluctuates from nowhere to sit to me getting wired by myself. Overall, I'd consider the project a small success. We've had quite a few travelers and newcomers pop their heads in the door and an occasional interesting debate. If anything, the coffeehouse has provided many a hungover punk with free coffee on a Sunday morning! To find out directions or any other questions you might have call Profane's phone number listed elsewhere in this zine.

So what are you waiting for! These places definitely deserve your support much more than places like The Uptown Bar or First Avenue. You'll find all of these proprietors to have none of the money-grubbing tendencies of many of the club owners infesting this area. Happy coffee dreams, bay-bee! —Criterion T.

CO-OPS

The Twin Cities area is rather unique in having numerous food co-operatives. A food co-op is a grocery store, run by the employees, offering a wide selection of organic and wholesome foods. This makes readily available much healthier fare than the chemical-laden fare at most grocery stores. For health-conscious people, or those looking for an alternative to a meat-eating diet, co-ops are definitely the answer.

The term co-operative, or co-op, means working together in a common goal. A cooperative grocery store has many people involved in running the business. Most co-ops hire employees but also have members who volunteer their time, skills and energy in exchange for price discounts on food. As well, co-ops are owned by those who work in them so there are no bosses or owners pocketing all the cash produced by the workers. Further, with the combined buying power of all its members, a co-op will buy foods in "bulk" which means the customer must bring their own containers for things ranging from dried beans to peanut butter to shampoo. This also spares wasteful and costly packaging. For these reasons, overhead for co-op grocery stores is much lower, which means a considerably lower price in goods.

While co-ops may not be perfect in nature, and in most cases still contain elements of the hierarchical structures in society at large, they are at least a viable, tangible alternative to corporate grocery stores. They are a here-and-now starting point for people to realize their own potential and begin to take back their lives.

Co-ops are basically set up so that they are run by the customers who are in turn the "members." When you join a co-op you are generally expected to volunteer a certain number of hours each month in exchange for discounts or other benefits the co-op may offer. Some co-ops make you pay a membership fee to join as well. Membership policies vary between the different co-ops a great deal so it would be advisable to do some investigating of the different ones.

Even if you do not join as a member, co-ops are still much cheaper than commercial "health food" stores and have a lot other stores don't offer.

The co-op in Minneapolis we most often go to is North Country on Riverside Avenue. Their prices are lower than others closer to our house and they have an excellent membership policy. If you've never been to a co-op grocery maybe it's time to check it out—there may even be one in your neighborhood! --*Troll*

It's been doubted for some time whether the Wedge is actually a co-op—maybe now it's time the word "community" be stricken from the name as well. The Wedge are currently undergoing a major renovation which entailed demolishing the two adjacent Victorian-era houses much like our own. One of the houses was a squat not too long ago and was eventually bought by the Wedge who completely refurbished it. The house was then demolished before anyone moved in. In a community where homeless people wander the streets and affordable housing is becoming hard to find, demolishing a perfectly good dwelling is by no means a community service! Maybe it's because of our impending eviction from our own house, but this strikes a little close to home and fits in all too well with persistent trends. It should also be noted that even after the houses next to the Wedge have been torn down, one former squatter is still being forced to pay for alleged damages! —*Troll* *Photo by Newt*

NOISE REVIEWS

2000 DS "Crowborough" EP
The first U.S. release from these Pan-European travelers. Live they're somtehing beyond description using day-glow paints and black lighting. This record is more in the post-punk vein and is a good continuation from their LP. Comes with a cool patch which is always a bonus. These people are threatening a U.S. tour so beware!!! (Troll)
Scrap Records / P.O. Box 8001 / New Haven, CT 06530

ANTISECT "Live? Hallo There..." LP
This is a U.S. Pressing of the "Live in the Darkness" LP released in the U.K. last year. The songs here are all from their classic LP and the recording quality is well above average for live standards being studio re-mixed from the sound board. It's impossible to find any of their studio releases nowadays so I'd definitely recommend this to anyone looking for material by this highly influential band. It would have been nice if there had been a lyric sheet though. (Troll)
Graven Image / P.O. Box 2067 / Peter Stuy. Stn. / New York, NY 10009]

A.P.P.L.E. "Disintegrate the Church and State" 45 RPM
Yet, another A.P.P.L.E. seven inch to be released in '91, five years after the material was recorded! That's just fine by me, though... here we have four more great peace punk classics from their demo. If you missed out in '86, get it now. (Newt)
$3 ppd to Broken Rekids / P.O. Box 460402 / S.F., CA 94146

ASSASSINS OF GOD "No Music Tonight" 7"
This is a really cool record at least as far as the music and cover goes. There's no insert, credits, lyrics, nothing! A.O.G. sound like A.P.P.L.E., CRASS, and CHUMBA all mixed up together. Different than the usual punk record. (Newt)
$3 ppd to Broken Rekids / P.O. Box 460402 / S.F., CA 94146

BRUTAL TRUTH "The Birth of Ignorance" 45 RPM
A bootleg recording, which is destined to fool everyone... It rags the hell out of the capitalist music system, especially COMBAT Records. BRUTAL TRUTH is heavy, heavy, heavy, very brutal, fast, grinding type of music, lost somewhere between punk and metal. I guess I should mention Dan Lilker from NUCLEAR ASSAULT is in the band, although BRUTAL TRUTH blow NUCLEAR ASSAULT away, musically and lyrically. Lyrics deal with the system and fighting homophobia. One of the better records I've heard in a while... hope to hear more in the future. Great cover, too... get it if you can find it. (Newt)
Liberated Records / NO ADDRESS

CONFRONTATION "Dead Against the War" EP
Fuck have these guys gone total metal or what since their last record!? Sort of like D.R.I. crossed with Napalm Death but better. The cover is a big fold-out poster with some pretty cool graphics. Obviously political lyrics which have to be read to be comprehended. (Troll)
Tribal War / P.O. Box 20012 / Tompkins Square Stn. / New York, NY 10009

COPSHOOTCOP "White Noise" LP
While not as incredible as their debut LP, COPSHOOTCOP's second LP still blows me away. Put together high and low-end basses, an incredibly tight drummer (with industrial, metal effects) and a keyboardist who does some incredible DJ-styled, swirling sample effects and you got one hell of an intense band. This is what all industrial dance music should be like: boogiein' in the middle of a city street with a big gun in yer jacket. The lyrics are also some of the best I've seen in quite awhile - fusing anarchist concepts with blank generation personality. Fuckin' beauteous. (Criterion T.)
Big Cat / P.O.Box 855 / Radio City Station / New York, NY 10101-0855

CHRIST ON A CRUTCH "Crime Pays When Pigs Die" LP
They're still going strong! COAC leaves no secrets about how they feel about authority and the many organizations serving to control the masses. As they say in "In On Your Joke," "[when politicians, cops, etc. are gone] that's the day I'll find my hope." Great production, too, with energetic, punked-out funk riffs (not Chili-Pepperish, at all) Play loud as cops drive by! (Yngwie)
New Red Archives / 5520 Selma Ave., Suite 1305 / Hollywood, CA 90028

CROSSED OUT 7"
I put this puppy on and it through me across the room and smashed me against the wall. Fuckn' raw, brilliant crust with enough slow parts to allow you to catch a breath. Get it, but don't say I didn't warn you. (Criterion T.)
Slap a Ham Records / Box 420843 / San Francisco, CA 94142-0843

DEATH SQUAD "Born to lose....Die to win?"
Raw mid-80's style cross-over with "fuck you" lyrics. (Felix)
$5 from Submission Records / P.O.Box 6824 / St.Paul, MN 55106

DEATHSTRIKE- fuckin' death
Creeping death grind which sounds just like Master, in fact this has some ex- Master members in it. Pick it up if you like Master.(Felix)
Nuclear Blast

DEFORMED CONSCIENCE "No Excuse for Suffering" cass.
Crusty blasts of late-'80's hardcore ala Ripchord and E.N.T. Lyrics similar to aforementioned bands, but can enough be said about destruction and inhumanity the whole world suffers? Do some vinyl with this band, John! (Yngwie)
c/o Adversity / P.O.Box 1751 / Torrington, CT 06790

DISORDER "More Noise" EP
DISORDER in classic form with their second live release which (I hate to say it) is less noisy than their first one! If drunken punk rock had a theme song it could be any of DISORDER's. Highly recommended for those who listen to "Lookout Records". (Troll)
Filthy Fuckin' Punx / 4611 1/2 152nd St. / Lawndale, CA 90260

DOWNCAST Lp
Angry and pissed off at society? Try picking up the new DOWNCAST Lp... these guys are too. Very personal / political, but very pissed! Comes with a nice accompaniment of articles and photos, to get the brain rolling. One of the better albums of the year (and memorable live show). (Newt)
$5 ppd to Ebullition Records / P.O. Box 680 / Goleta, CA 93116

ENTROPY "Welcome to the Police State" cassette
This is a ten song cassette which sounds pretty good. The covers got a typical picture of riot cops in line and they suffer from being just a little too cliche lyrically, however the music stands out on its own. A good straight foreward punk release for only $2.25 ppd.
Entropy / P.O. Box 9471 / Schnectady, NY 12309-9471

THE EX plus TOM CORA "Scrabbling the Lock" LP
THE EX got together with experimental cello player Tom Cora to release one of the best albums I've heard in quite awhile. THE EX take their rhythmic
blast and combine it with some full-sounding cello, twigged-out improv singing and political/ folktale songwriting to create a record full of mood and intensity. Definitely one of their best releases to date. (Criterion T.)
P.O.Box 635 / 1000 AP Amsterdam / Holland

EXCREMENT OF WAR "The Waste and the Greed" 7"
Let's put Discharge out of their misery and give the name to E.O.W. who rightfully deserve the title. Like Discharge, all their songs here are about how bad war is—sometimes sounding like Doom, others like E.N.T. (funny as Stick is in all three bands!) Probably the best Japanese/Swedish hardcore to come out of the U.K. in ages. (Troll)
R.P.P. Records / P.O. Box 178 / Coventry CV1 5T6 / England

EXOTERACY 7"
Seven blazing metal/punk songs here in heavy duty form along with some pretty sarcastic lyrics. This is supposed to by played at 45RPM but sounds way better at 33! (Troll)
$3.50 ppd. from Kathartic Records / P.O. Box 4692 / Garden Grove, CA 94642

EXTREME NOISE TERROR "Are You that Hungry?" 7"
Six classic live ENT tracks recorded in 1989. Raging, full-bore 100% punk fucking rock the way it was meant to be. Highly recommended, especially if you've not been able to find any of their imports. (Troll)
Crust Records / P.O. Box 2308 / Plainville, MA 02762

GEKO "Probing the Gash in Her Head" 7"
Yeah! It's about time we see a totally D.I.Y. ep from a gloom-type band. Actually, GEKO's sound isn't as gloomy as it is moody, in a haunting, sensual manner. The band is comprised of two wimmin from Hollywood (including Carrie from *For Your Skull* zine) and their faithful drum machine. Their sound is totally original and well-textured. Hopefully we'll see a full album from these folx. Beautiful music from two cool, committed people. (Criterion T.)
Open Records / P.O.Box 482 / Paoli,PA 19301

GOLPE JUGTO-7"
1991 or 1981? What happened in NYC 10 years ago seems to be happening today in Puerto Rico. Tight, angry, powerful searing hardcore conceived from the realities of urban oppression. Forget the over-approved commercial skin-head mosh-core of Sick of it All, etc, and pick up this powerful disk. Hard as fuckin' nails.(lyrics in Spanish and English) (Felix)
Computer crime records/ 74 Osbourne Ave/ Norwalk, CT 06855 $3 ppd

G-ANX-Masterpiece EP
Another blast of pure power from G-Anx. The psychedelic hippy intro gives way to blasts and manic mayhem guaranteed to rupture your eardrums. Cool as fuck. (Felix) Ecoerberry Records(address above)

HEROIN 7"
HEROIN do the DC/emo style thing with some pretty gruff vocals. Pretty melodic, like Southern California HC. Interesting packaging: looks like the covers used to be paper bags. Now thats recycling! (Newt)
Gravity Records / P.O. Box 17052 / San Diego, CA 92177

KRUPTED PEASANT FARMERS / THE CURBS split 7"
K.P.F. have songs about legalizing hemp and the new world order. The music is catchy punk w/ clear vocals. Overall, the K.P.F. have 3 songs which rock out pretty good. The cover is really neato too!. The Curbs prefer to play a little more aggressive kinda music. The first song is about being a pinball junkie and the other is about being in prison . A pretty decent record.
Curbs / 6177 Corte Camula / San Jose, CA 95120

MANLIFTING BANNER "Myth of Freedom" 7"
Blazing, tight-as-a-knot hardcore. A cross between old Boston HC and maybe NO SECURITY. Very strong anti-democracy and anti-secret police themes. Amazing sleeve / inlay, too. The lyrics are cool, but I've heard they're S.E. communists I'll wait to hear more about this band, but this 7' rips! (Yngwie)
Crucial Response / Kaiserfeld 98 / 4200 OBERHAUSEN I / West Germany

MINDROT "Endeavor" EP
A fucking sick piece of plastic! Combine Boltthrower and Asbestosdeath and that'll put you in the right direction of what you'll find here. Gloomy lyrics about emotional torment which is what I expected from such gloomy packaging. Pressed in small amounts on several different colors of wax. (Troll)
Tempest / P.O. Box 1597 / Huntington Beach, CA 92647-1597 (or) Angry Thoreauan / P.O. 2246 / Anaheim, CA 92814

MULTIPLEX-7"
Extra heavy duty Japanese grind with political lyrics. Rocks hard but suffers from extremely poor recording and a high price.(Felix)
Psychoslaughter Rec./ P.O.Box 22/ Bell Vernon, PA 15012

NAKED AGGRESSION They can't get me down-Ep
The upper midwest is rapidly becoming the home of some of the best new punk/hardcore bands. Naked Aggression's 7" is a blast of punk power reminiscent of early 80's punk yet totally applicable to todays world. Indeed this EP proves without a doubt that punks original message is undiluted and relevent some 15 years after its inception. The anger, energy,power, urgency and protest of punk are just as relevant to 1991 as they were to 1976 or 1982. Naked Aggressions sound and message reminds a great of the Avengers indeed. The cause of this digression into nostalgia was my listening to the Avengers LP hot off the heals of Naked Aggression. Reading the liner notes really drove the comparison home. Highly recommended.(Felix)
only $3 from: 539 W.Doty st. / Madison,WI 53703

NATION OF ULYSSES "13 Point Program to Destroy America" LP
OK, I'll just start off by saying that this is probably the best p-rock dance album ever. Totally redefining soul music, The Nation picks up yer arse screams at it, puts a suit on it and wiggles it all over the place! The excellent situationist-styled lyric sheet, relevant lyrics and loose production push this release into classic status in my book. Shit, where else can you shake yer pelvis down to yer knees to a song dedicated to The Sparrows, the assassins for The People's Army of the Philipines! (Criterion T.)
Dischord Records

NATIONS ON FIRE "Puck You I'm Funk" 7" EP
N.O.F. is a relatively new band with one member from the SCRAPS teamed up with ex-members of RISE ABOVE and DISORDER! True to their self-description the are powerful, political and positive and are captured live here at my favorite venue in Belgium; the Vort'n Vis (Rotten Fish). There's seven songs here which are strongly critical of social order as well as a cover from the SCRAPS and one from NEGATIVE APPROACH with Mike Bullshit from GO! on vocals. All in all this is quite a unique record and I can understand why they'd want to put it on vinyl. (Troll)
P.M.A. / Warehouse Records c/o Jan / P.O. Box 122 / 8800 Roeselare / Belgium

PHANTASMORGASM cassette
Hard to figure this one out. The first song is blazing thrash, sort of like a less-powerful NO COMMENT. However, the rest of the music degenerates into some bland, third rate "funkpunkmetal." Gawd, I hate that kind of shit. With an attitude like that, it's hard for me to like this tape, but I must say the lyrics are really good, especially the ones that deal with the songwriter's Chicano identity. I'd like to see more of these kinds of lyrics. Now if they'd only listen more carefully to their DISCHARGE and CRUCIFIX records. . . (joel)
$7ppd to PO Box 12244 / Denver, CO 80212

PUNGENT STENCH Been Caught Buttering
Pungent Stench, Carcass, and Agothocles have to be the best grindcore bands of the 90's. While zillions of new grind/ death bands spring up, Pungent Stench remains original and innovative. Their music and lyrics are a journey into extremes of intensity from the twisted fringes of the human pysyche. Thouroghly twisted this is my current fave and will be yours too if you like brain pummeling insane grindcore. (Felix)
Nuclear Blast/ 7322 Donzdorf / Germany

RICHIES "Spring Surprise" Lp
These guys sound a bit like the Ramones, but the lyrics are even worse. They sing about senseless, stupid shit, like motorcycles. (K)
We Bite America, Inc / P.O.Box 10172 / Chicago, IL 60610-0172

SCHLONG cassette
OK, David. You were right. SCHLONG aren't East Bay Pop Punk, as I might have said before... They sound more West Bay, a la early VICTIM'S FAMILY and FAITH NO MORE. It even resembles PLAID RETINA, at times. Interesting, and

Lies, Gossip, Name-Dropping, & Other Punk Shit! *Compiled by Troll*

The top of the news this month is the inacted boycott of **First Avenue** launched by the **Minneapolis Glitter Punx** chapter. We have been handed the following statement which speaks as follows:

"In Profane Existence # 11/12, Troll slagged First Avenue in his column. This apparently pissed off some people. A few weeks ago, some gitterpunx (Big Daddy Smooth-Moves and Doctor Funky) went to First Avenue to boogie. Of course we only go because it's free. Doctor F asked the DJ if he would prefer to play some disco. 'Do you know the Profane Existence people?' he asked.

'Of course,' Dr. F. replied.

'NO disco for you, pal!' says Mr. DJ. So First Avenue will supposedly play no more disco on Dance Party nights.

The Glitterpunx have now launched an official boycott of First Avenue. There's plenty of other places for us to shake our booty at. This week we're bustin' our buns down the street at The Saloon - half the glitter of First Avenue, but twice the action. May the disco inferno continue to burn hotter then hell in your heart and in your feet!" - Boyfriend Glitter

NAUSEA have called it quits just recently after they recorded their forthcoming ***Fallout*** EP. The members are already busy forming new bands including a collaboration called **SIN** with Al (ex-**NAUSEA**), Javier (ex-**BORN AGAINST**) and a drum machine!! **NAUSEA** plan's to release the ***Fallout*** EP in March on Al's **Graven Image** Records.

I've got word of a new organization called **"A.P.A.L.L."** which stands for **"Anarchist Punks Against Lawrence Livermore."** We don't know much about this secret group but rumor has it they are now developing "Smart Punx Bombs" which can seek out and destroy a **GREEN DAY** record from a range of five miles. They have drawn up a 10 point plan to expell the **Lookout** Mogul from the punk scene because "Nobody's ever been expelled from the punk scene and it's about time we clean up our act." Another group called **A.P.A.T.H.Y.** has also formed under the cause **"Anarchist Punks Against Tim Hot wings Yohannon"** but we doubt they'll ever get around to doing anything. Similar groups directed at **Ben Weasel** and **Mykel Board** were forming but have since disbanded because they couldn't think of cool punk rock Acronyms to fit with the target names.

A friend of mine in Hamburg wrote me about a massive 20-band gig called "Viva St. Pauli" which took place there on the 7th of September. The big open-air festival, "Viva St. Pauli!,"took place in the St. Pauli Football Club soccer stadium and featured bands of all kinds of different music for only $8. Over 25,000 people came and, after expenses, over $40,000 was raised for the Haffenstraße squats and other alternative projects.

VIVA ST. PAULI!

not boring like VICTIM'S FAMILY. You were right, David. (Newt)
Very Small Company / East Bay, CA

SCREECHING WEASEL "My Brain Hurts" LP
The promo sheet described this LP as a cross between Bad Religion and The Ramones and, for once, a promo sheet doesn't lie! This isn't quite as good as their last album which had more and shorter songs, but it is still just about the best pop punk LP to come out lately. Cool lyrics and a cover of "I can see clearly now" top off this rockin' slab of Weaselness. Get it, cutie. (Criterion T.)
Lookout Records

SOULSIDE "18 Any Use of the Ropes" 2x7"
Recorded in Germany on their 1989 European tour. The sound quality is pretty good. All the SOULSIDE hits are here, so if you dug 'em when they were around... Too bad there's only 993 of these. (Newt)
KomistA: / Sterneck-Eichenheege 12b / D - 6457 Maintal 1 / Germany

SUCKERPUNCH 10"
I don't know how the fuck Jamey affords to do this (too many hours at Kinko's?) but somehow this here ten inch is $3.50 postage paid, with 50¢ going to Operation Outreach, who give food to those who aren't able to buy it, and another group called Grass Roots II, who do similar projects. So fuck, SUCKERPUNCH are are really good hardcore band anyway, so I have no choice but to like this! (Newt)
$3.50 ppd to Little Redhead Records / 1693 Franceschi Rd. / Santa Barbara, CA 93103

SUFFOCATION- Human Waste LP
Snarling, churning, growling grinding death. Unleashes a furious pounding in your head which ends only with cranial meltdown. (Felix)
Nuclear Blast

TAR "Jackson" LP
Yowza... what a doozy of an album! Take the dragged-through-the-mud tempo of GODFLESH and toss in the Chicago guitar sound of, say, BIG BLACK and you got some crazy music. Listening to TAR makes me feel like a striking auto worker getting ready to shoot my boss in some dark GM factory in Detroit. This puppy sounds incredible when the volume knob is on about ten and you're stoned outta yer gourd (I don't do drugs, though...) (Criterion T.)
Amphetamine Reptile Records

U.F.D. "Sei Tot!" LP
This was my favorite record to review this month, unpredictably combining various loud, fast & heavy styles to come up with the ultimate anarchist hardcore record. All of the songs are of a very serious social-political nature and are played with strong emotion. The cover is by the same artist who did the incredible "Six Ways" EP cover and it's like no other I've ever seen. There is also an awesome comic/lyric booklet that gives English translations to the lyrics as well. I like this more every time I hear it. (Troll)
KomistA c/o Sterneck / Eichenheege 12B / 6457 Maintal 1 / Germany (or) Bomb It Records c/o Arno Hartmann / Hirschstraße 21 / 6450 Hannau 1 / Germany

VILLAGE PEOPLE-Fox on the Box-cassette
Wow!!! this tape fucking blew my mind. I found it for $2.50 at Cheapo Records. This is the V.P. after the disco craze and that artsy *Reanisance* LP, all from 1982. The songs are a little more funk orientated, but I can still shake my booty to this a hundred times more. Just ask Dr. Funky. Unfortunately some of the songs are about picking up women(!!?). I thought the V.P. stood for gay rights. Anyway, I command you to go to straight to the nearest used record store and get it!!! (K)

V/A *Altered Reality* zine issue #8 w/ double 7"
The zine is basically an inlay for the comp. w/ lyrics, pix and art. It also includes an interview by members of TRIAL (now TRIPWIRE) with Billingsgate and SAY NO MORE. Those three bands plus DOGGMAN, REACH DOWNSIDE and BLOODLINE do songs on the two 7"s. A good mix of styles within the midwest hardcore scene and some cool lyrics against white pride, hardline and apathy. Excellent package! (Yngwie)
Takeover Records / P.O.Box 40116 / St. Paul, MN 55104

V/A "Civilisationens Bakgard" 7" EP
I love Swedish hardcore, however even if this wasn't Swedish I'd love it. 5 songs by 5 of the best Swedish bands today: The Sun, Svart Sno, Dom Dar, G-Anx and No Security. I could tell you all about how great these bands are and how they play raging hardcore but.. This 7" is a benefit for the Swedish AYF and comes with a booklet detailing AYF actions and animal abuse in Sweden. All said, this record is great, excellent music, informative and for a good cause. Stop reading this and go order it. (Felix)
Ecoerberry records c/o S. Hakeskog / Polstiaernev .2, 4 TR / 554 64 Jonkoping / Sweden

V/A "Collective Conscience" compilation 7"
Neat-o idea: here's a record dedicated to the idea of collective living and working. There's very little in the booklet about collectives, save one piece written on three collectives in San Francisco, but the booklets still way cool with lots of interesting pix. Four bands on the record, with the stand-outs being BLISTER and SABOT. (Newt)
$3 ppd to Broken Rekids / P.O. Box 460402 / S.F., CA 94146

V/A CRINGER / HOLY ROLLERS split 7"
The final tunes from CRINGER? I hear that they broke up and Lance has a new band that sounds just like CRINGER... ok, I've never heard the HOLY ROLLERS before, but they do the pretty melodic sounding thing, similar to JAWBOX. Pretty fuckin' neat, since you asked... (Newt)
$3 to Shred O' Dignity / P.O. Box 170501 / SF, CA 94117

V/A ECONOCHRIST / DETONATORS split 7"
Punk as fuck! Two great bands on one Ep. ECONOCHRIST dish out two more classics, including a cover of DEVO's "Uncontrollable Urge." DETONATORS play three excellent tracks... these guys definitely need more vinyl out. One of the better Eps of 1991. (Newt)
$3 ppd to Insurrection Records / P.O. Box 4314 / Santa Rosa, CA 95402

V/A FORGOTTEN PROPHECY/MUSHROOM ATTACK split LP
One of this months picks-FORGOTTEN PROPHECY from Greece growl out some intense punk/grind which sounds like an updated Anti-sect or maybe Anti-System. Includes howling wind, bomb dropping, and Sex Pistols samples. MUSHROOM ATTACK play grinding crust with dual vocal which reminds me of Anarcrust. Both bands kick ass and its on Looney Toons so its pretty inexpensive. Highly recommended. (Felix)
Looney Toons / Top Flat 23 the Esplanade / Scarborough, W. Yorks / Y011 2AQ England

V/A Lube Job-7"
1 song each from SFA-NYC hate fuckin' core, Necracedia-PGH- punk fuckin' rock -Doomwatch:power metal rock and Submachine-hardcore tension. All bands rock out and have something to say- a cool D.I.Y. sampler at a low price.
Rustrecordsm / P.O.Box 81942/ Pittsburg, PA 15217

V/A "Noise Against Repression" double LP
This is one incredible package and I can't help but make a comparison that this is probably the 1990'2 answer to the "Peace" compilation double LP! The two LP's are crammed with political European bands playing hardcore, punk, thrash and more, including THE EX, F.U.A.L., MOMENTO MORI, ACTIVE MINDS, ISRAELVIS and at least a dozen more. There is also a massive booklet packed with articles on anarchist and radical left resistance all going along with the theme for this record. It's put together all very professionally and convincingly. Definitely one of the most ambitious compilation releases I've seen in ages. (Troll)
U.S.A.F. C/o Themroc / Bremerstraße 42 / 4400 Münster / Germany

V/A "Sign Language" 3x7" box set
Good music from SLEEP, ECONOCHRIST, POLITICAL ASYLUM, C.O.A.C., + others, but the sound quality is pretty terrible (its barely audible). Nice packaging and booklet (with four different articles from Alice Nutter, Lawrence Livermore + others). Each record is dedicated to a different theme: Stop Racism, Stop Sexism, Stop War. Pretty nifty, but $12. (Newt)
Allied Recordings / P.O. Box 460683 / SF, CA 94146

V/A "Six Ways" 7"EP
One side is live SORE THROAT caught playing their "Unhindered by Talent" classics while the other side is 5 German bands playing a short blast of mayhem of their own making. Good to wake yourself up in the morning with. All the songs are recorded at various squats around Germany. The best part of this record is the cover artwork which is the best I've seen in ages! (Troll)
KomistA c/o Sterneck / Eichenheege 12B / D-6457 Maintal 1 / Germany

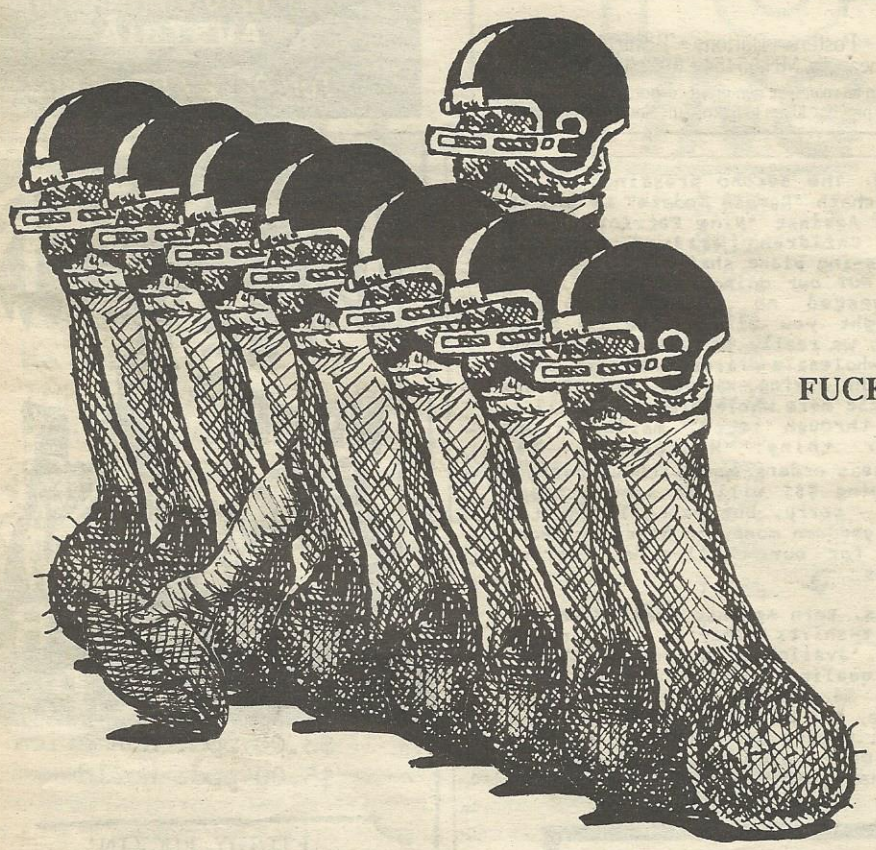
V/A "Very Small World" 2xLp
A lot of effort, time, and money went in to this one and it shows: Very Small World is the best compilation I've heard in a looooooooooooong time! There's a slew of bands here (28 total), so of course there's excellent and crapola material (mostly great music though). Standouts are PLAID RETINA, BLISTER, SLEEP, and ECONOCHRIST, but there's so much variety here... Fantastic cover and booklet to boot. Cheaper than a case of Crucial Brew and lasts way longer! Crucial comp! (Newt)
Very Small Records / P.O. Box 8223 / Emeryville, CA 94662

V/A "Where Are They Now? File" 7" Ep
WOW—What a bootleg! Jello Biafra and CHUMBAWAMBA do a cover of "Heartbreak Hotel" by Elvis, although they change it to "Homeless Hotel." L7 do a GUNS-N-ROSES cover, but it sounds like they're mocking 'em. GRAY MATTER do a cover, too, which I know I've heard before... I just can't place it. NOMEANSNO don't do a cover, but dish out some more great discordiant hardcore instead. This is pretty killer, especially for chomps like me who didn't get to see Jello w/ CHUMBA. Included is a booklet, which contains interesting selections of articles stolen out of other fanzines. (Newt)
NO ADDRESS

V/A "You Can't Eat Music" cassette
A very well put-together benefit tape for the Donald Bentley Food Pantry, a student-organized and run food bank that does lots of other good things for its community as well. Right fucking on! We need more things like that, run on anarchist principles. Anyway, the tape includes several of the more prominent non-Dischord DC area bands: TSUNAMI, FREAK BEANS, MOSS ICON, FIFTH COLUMN, and COMMONWEALTH, all recorded live. The sound quality is average and to be quite honest, this just isn't my style of music, but the cause is totally righteous and so is Jess, so if you dig this scene than you need this tape. (joel)
5503 Boxhill Ln. / Baltimore, MD 21210

PROFANE EXISTENCE WARMLY WELCOMES FOOTBALL FANS TO MINNESOTA:

FUCK THE



FUCK MACHO ATHLETES *AND* THE SUPERBOWL

FUCK SEXIST STEREOTYPES *AND* THE SUPERBOWL

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SUPERBOWL

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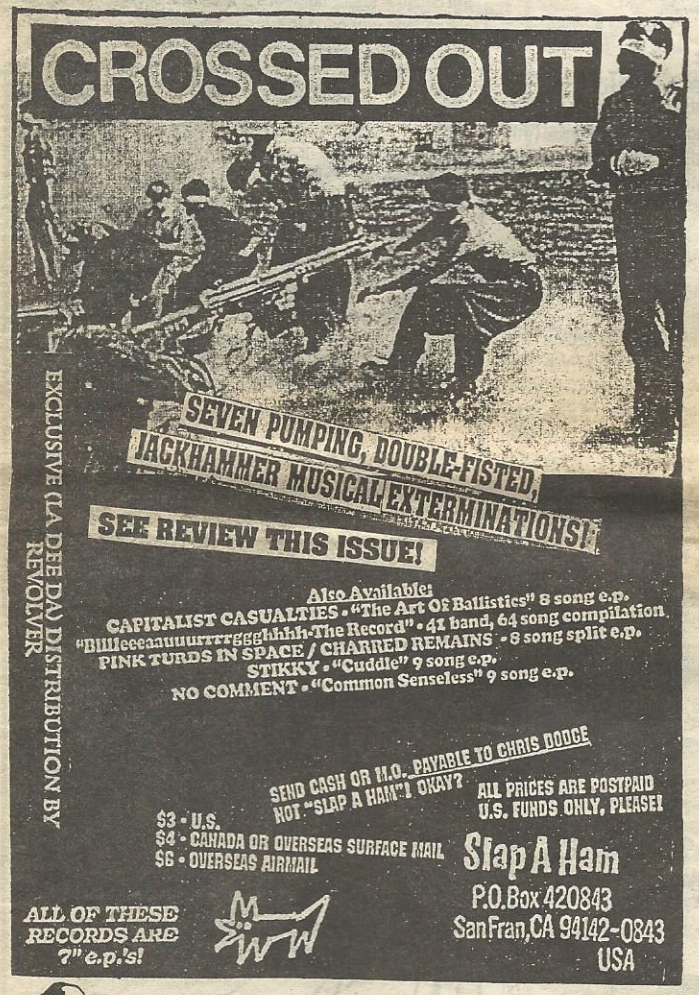

INDEPENDENT
(in´di pen´dent)
adj. 1. Politically autonomous; self-governing. 2. Free from the influence or control of others; self-reliant. 3. Affiliated with or loyal to no one political party or organization. 4. Financially self-sufficient; self-supporting.

RADICAL
(rad´i kel)
adj. 1. Arising from or going to a root or source; fundamental; basic. 2. Carried to the furthest limit; sweeping, radical social change. 3. Favoring or effecting revolutionary changes, as in political organization.

BOOKSTORE
(book´stôr´)
n. a store where books are sold.*

*definitions adapted from the *American Heritage Dictionary* ©1969

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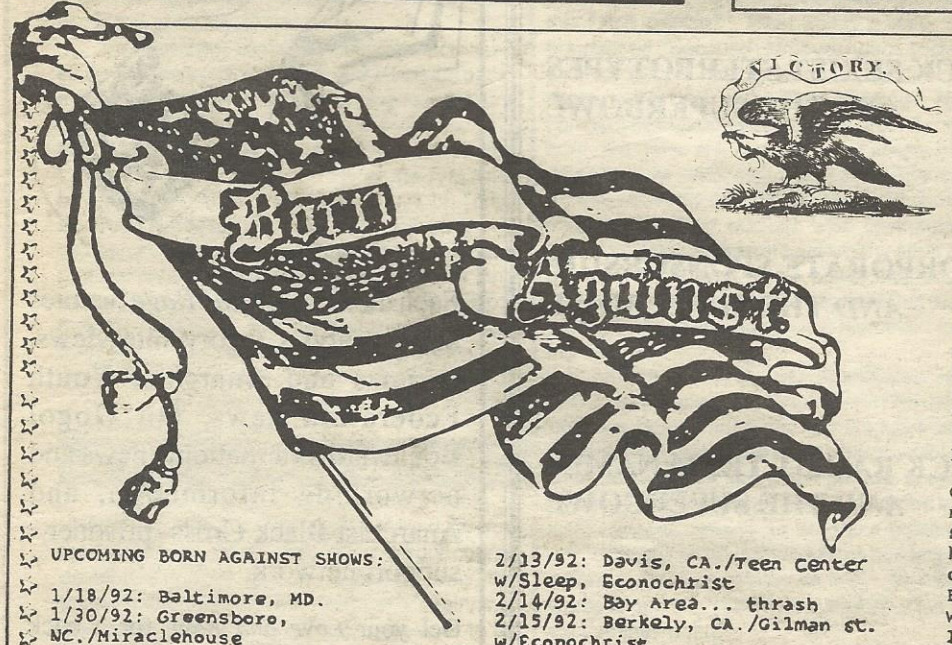

UPCOMING BORN AGAINST SHOWS:

1/18/92: Baltimore, MD.
1/30/92: Greensboro, NC./Miraclehouse
1/31/92: Birmingham, AL.
2/1/92: New Orleans, LA./RC Bridge Lounge w/ Eye Hate God
2/2/92: Dallas, TX./Common Ground w/ Voice Of Reason
2/4/92: Alburquerque, NM.
2/5/92: Phoenix, AZ.
2/6/92: San Diego, CA./a garage w/Titwrench
2/7/92: San Diego, CA. w/ Heroin, Crossed Out
2/8/92: Los Angeles w/ early Black Flag, like maybe from '82
2/9/92: Santa Barbara, CA./the Anaconda w/ Downcast
2/12/92: Oakland, CA./Your Place II
2/13/92: Davis, CA./Teen Center w/Sleep, Econochrist
2/14/92: Bay Area... thrash
2/15/92: Berkely, CA./Gilman st. w/Econochrist
2/16/92: Salt Lake City/Hate x9 warehouse w/Hate x9
2/17/92: Boulder, CO./Ballet Studio downtown
2/18/92: Lawrence, KS.? Kansas City, KS.??
2/20/92: St. Louis, MO.
2/21/92: Louisville, KY./skate park
2/22/92: Richmond, VA.

Go to Europe in March '92

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
for changes or info call Adam at (201) 867-4903 until January 29, 1992

Note: The second pressings of the Rorschach "Remain Sedate" LP and the Born Against "Nine Patriotic Hymns for Children" arrived from the press-ing plant shrink wrapped. This was NOT our doing, we specifically requested no shrink wrap. Just thought you all'd like to know. Also, we really do have a sheet with our wholesale prices and terms ready for the asking. Oh yes, and LPs are now 25¢ more wholesale, but still $6 ppd through retail mailorder. One other thing: Henceforth, all overseas orders sent without correct shipping $$$ will be sent Surface mail - sorry, but we're losing too much goddamn money in nice guy mode. Send for our catalog w/ correct prices.

Oh yes, Born Against broke down and made t-shirts. They're 2-colors, 2 sided, available on grey or black, high quality large or extra large only. $8 ppd in USA, $12 ppd. in Europe, $13 ppd. for the rest of the world. Coming soon: Charred Remains 10", Dear Jesus 39, Manacled 7". Buchanan '92.

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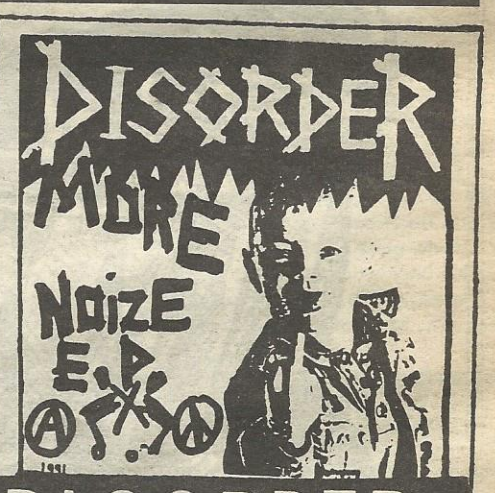

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TEACH YOUR-FUCKING-SELF

A punk primer in Self-motivation and Self-education by Criterion T.

Well, we've all felt that p-rock groove and it's helped us get through high school, the nightmares of family life or whatever else the eighties happened to toss our way to chew up and spit out. And here we sit with a healthy dose of cynicism towards anything even remotely resembling education or study. It seems to me that my generation (the media-described "Blank Generation") has forgotten how to concentrate. We've all been raised under the hypnotic drone of our TV's high-pitch squeal and any long attention span we may have had has been devoured by half-hour sit-com reruns. It seems that the majority of people I hang out with were either so turned off by high school that the thought of a higher education makes 'em cringe or, like myself, did some time in college only to drop out feeling frustrated, stupid and alienated. So, I figured I'd wiggle my fingers across some typewriter keys and propose some thoughts on higher education which I've found empowering, educational and down-right exciting (oh yeah, and cheap!). Despite the amount of knowledge I've accumulated while going through the rigorous, tedious, stressful college schedule, I still found my education to be very one-dimensional. After dropping out I caught the realization that I could read the same books I did in college while applying the knowledge to an everyday alternative way of life away from the confines of a middle and upper class college environment. Don't get me wrong, a person can acquire an incredible amount of knowledge and experience from four years in college. It just seems to me that these same funky principles of enlightenment should be available to everyone and not just the select few who can concentrate in, what I consider, an oppressive college environment where such a large emphasis is placed on commodity and success. College, after all, is just another business where profits are measured and competition naturally arises. So here are a few ideas/ principles that I've come up with to acquire brains without dealing with institutions and while probably dealing with the everyday shit (jobs, social life and all that jazz). Some of my points might seem very obvious and simple, but I feel it's important to be aware of everyday activities which often go overlooked. So, without further adieu, here goes...

SCAM FROM COLLEGE. If you live in a town with a semi- large university it's really easy to sit in on classes without paying tuition. Just find a schedule of classes before the semester starts. Courses with many lectures usually mean large classes with a ton of students to blend in with. For smaller(50-100 students) lectures, just explain to the teaching assistant that you're enrolled and just want to sit in on the class. An enthusiastic personality goes a long way in college atmosphere where usually half the class just wants to accumulate credits, get a degree and find a cushy job. Talk to a local college student and figure out the specific logistics. It also helps to look like a normal college student (ask Felix or Joel about that!), so dress down a tad. After you've taken a few classes write me and I'll send you a degree!

SMASH YOUR TV AND READ MORE. Don't tell me you're "not into reading." Almost all of us have been brought up with brains attached to TV sets- of course we haven't learned to read properly! By properly reading I mean reading longer texts, comprehending what we've read, reading text that not only entertains, but also stimulates some thought. So force yourself to read more and diversify the material you read; read every chance you get and don't stick to just science fiction, American writers, etc.

FIND A TOPIC, ETC. TO CONCENTRATE ON STUDYING. This is a good technique for developing your ability to acquire knowledge and use it effectively in your life. Pick a topic like, say, feminist history or cyberpunk culture, gather information pertaining to the subject and learn to tie the information together. Writing down the information you've gathered or talking with other people about the information gives you an opportunity to centralize and personalize what you've learned. Do a zine or form a punk rock reading group where everyone reads the same book and mellows out with some beer to discuss what they all got out of the book. Use your imagination - shit like this can be fun!

LEARN TO LOVE YOURSELF. Yeah, you knew I was going to throw that hippy shit in here! But seriously, our generation of teens and "young adults" needs to learn to heal themselves. Learning to love yourself and your body makes life's little tragedies so much easier to deal with. Understand what goes into your body and how it affects you. Rediscover your sexuality. Don't be afraid to come out as a queer! Learn to masturbate better. Talk about your emotions and feelings - something men, in particular, need to work on. Check out the books Bi Any Other Name, an anthology on bisexuality, and the new ReSearch book Angry Women, a series of incredible interviews with radical feminist-oriented performance artists (I found Annie Sprinkle's ideas particularly relevant and thought-provoking). These are just a couple of great books which will lend more insight into loving yourself. Don't dismiss this concept - it's important. Oh yeah, become a vegan, too!

RE-EVALUATE YOUR LIFESTYLE. Examine your consumption patterns. How many extra hours do you work to buy what? At the end of your day ask yourself what you've accomplished and how you could have utilized your time better. Free yourself from work. The more free time you have to utilize, the better (not to mention the oppressiveness of most jobs!). Decrease the number of hours you work by staying healthy, dumpster diving and shoplifting to decrease food expenses and decreasing material consumption (including drugs).

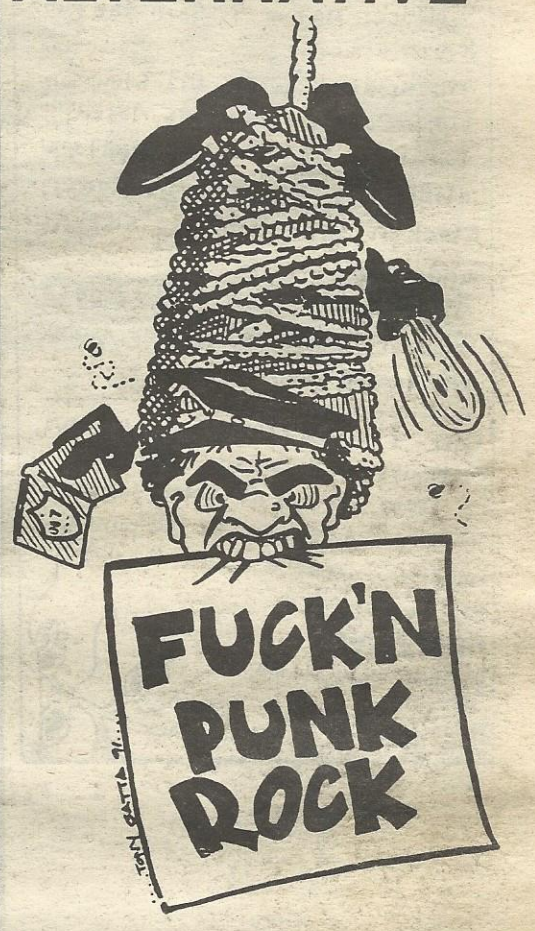
LEARN TO DANCE AND WEAR THE RIGHT CLOTHES. The revolution is coming and we must be prepared — we must not only be well-armed and knowledgeable in underground techniques, but also must wear the right lipstick and know the best dance steps. Dancing kills the alienation and fear we've grown up around. Fashion complements our dance skills and enhances our desire to learn other skills (such as sewing and fighting techniques). Dance space is analogous to our personal brain space. In both realms we must learn to expand our desires and let our creativity boogie. Get the new NATION OF ULLYSSES album and study it. Listen to Vaginal Creme Davis.

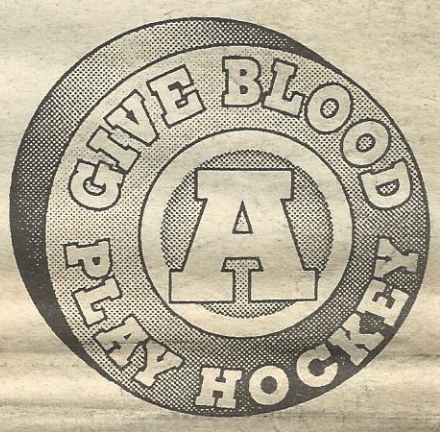
TRAVEL MORE. Traveling totally deconstructs the time-space relationship we're used to. When you travel, you pass through more space in a shorter period of time and interact with more people and environments. I've found that the best way to utilize your travels is to travel light and as cheaply as possible. Don't spend all of your time consuming - EXPLORE! Start a zine, establish some pen-pals and travel around meeting them. It's not that hard to do, but it can be a damn fun and intriguing experience.

CREATE AND WORK WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY. The community(-ies) we live in can be a great channel for growth. We must develop our abilities to interact and get along with each other (and not alienate and compete). If you already see yourself working to strengthen, say, the punk or skin community, try expanding your interactions with other communities you feel an affinity with (such as the queer community or your neighbors). Establish friendships with people unlike yourself.

Well, that about does it for now. Hopefully this article will create some dialogue within the underground community. We must discover alternatives to the mainstream educational system, a system which almost everyone has been a victim of. Boogie hard and flex that brain.

FUCKING ALTERNATIVE





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At **Darby Crash Memorial Stadium**
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Bring skates, stick, puck, and whatever equipment you may have.

The purpose: to have fun without the sexist/macho crap associated with most other sports leagues.

MEANWHILE IN THE MORE BROOMS THAN BRAINS LEAGUE...

Although Profane Existence claims to be starting a hockey team, it's common knowledge on the South Side that REAL [POSEURS] PLAY BROOMBALL!! Broomball is much more fun, requires less equipment and doesn't require the ability to ice-skate well. The South Minneapolis Chaos [Poseur] Broomball League plays every Friday at 6:30 in Darby Crash Memorial Stadium (located in Whittier Park at 27thSt. and Grand Ave. SOUTH! All games are pick-up with teams made on the spot. Teams used to be MISERY vs. DESTROY!, but sometimes we play boots vs. tennis shoes, mohawks vs. longhairs, etc. There are NO RULES! because this is anarchy and we are the [poseurs]. So if you have a broom and aren't afraid of having a good time come on down to the park and participate in the CHAOS!

-Felix "blood, brooms and guts" Von Havoc

MINNEAPOLIS FALAFEL REVIEWS

—by the Profane Existence Eating, Drinking, and Being Merry Crew

Seeing as falafel is one of the very few fast food vegan foods and seeing as we tend to eat a hell of a lot of them, we thought we'd give you our impressions of the few falafel joints we've taste-tested around town.

	PRICE	ATMOSPHERE	PORTIONS	TASTE	SERVICE	BUNUS
JERUSALEM'S	$4.45 (whole) 2.75 (half)	6.5	5	7	8	2
JAVA	$3.25	7	8.5	9	7	
CAIRO CAFE	$3.25	8	8.5	9	9	
NEW HORIZONS	$3.79 (Whole) $2.79 (Half)	6	5	6.5	7	2
SHEHERIZADE	$3.50-$4.00	5	5	4.5	5	

Jerusalem's 1518 Nicollet Ave.

Price: $4.45 whole / $2.75 half

A little pricey for an average-sized portion. We didn't get any extras with our falafel, although Troll did get two free soda crackers with his soup. The falafel patties were really good and crispy; however, it was accompanied with only leaf lettuce, cucumber, and tahini. Definitely delicious, but not out of this world. The service was above average; Troll's coffee cup was never empty even though we were in there for an hour reading PE mail. This place gets bonus points for the fact that it serves beer. Granted, it's $2.95 for a bottle of Heineken and the rest is corporate swill (so we didn't buy any), but any Middle Eastern resaurant that serves beer shows positive signs of cultural diversity, which is always a bonus in our book! The atmosphere was small and cozy with numerous tapestries and wallhangings, giving the appearance of a tent. There were even lots of waterpipes so you can pretend you're at a hash bar, just like in the movies. It was all pretty authentic, right down to the animal pelts tacked on the wall and the tiny bellydancing stage.

New Horizons 1015 W. Lake St.

Price: $3.79 whole / $2.79 half

Troll liked the atmosphere because lots of weirdos hang out there, but the music sucked (crappy 70s shit). Being a late-night joint, New Horizons tends to attract that sort of crowd. Joel didn't really care for the atmosphere cos it looked too much like a wannabe Denny's, and no matter what they say in the fuckin' East Bay, Denney's *sucks!* The price is a bit steep for da punx at $3.79, but it could be worse.

The taste is good — different, we sense a bit of mint spice in there — but once you get through the tahini on top, it was too dry and all you were left with was falafel and bread. There is also cucumber and purple lettuce, but again, it's all on the top. Still, this is a pretty damn good falafel, even if it usually doesn't quite fill you up.

The service was fine. We got a pot of coffee on the table and the woman kept coming around and checking up on us, even though it did take a while to get our food. Extra double bonus points for the waitress being a punk. Yeah! (Dawn from SMUT works here, too.)

Sheherizade 25th St. and Nicollet

Price: $3.50 - $4.00

Try pronouncing the name of this place! We checked out this place at 11:30, in the midst of the intense PISSED recording session. No, we didn't sign any autographs. The atmosphere was like being inside a tropical bamboo hut, although we must confess we didn't know bamboo was a common building material in the Middle East. Still, it was cool, except for the cockroach walking on the wall behind joel's head!

The portions were okay. Probably the most average falafel we've ever seen. The average amount of falafel, the average amount of fixings, you know. It was adequate, though at the time we were so hungry it looked like god. The taste was pretty adequate, too, nothing special. We're pretty sure they used yogurt instead of tahini for the sauce, so that's a big non-vegan negative there. If you go there, ask for tahini instead of yogurt.

Lastly, the service was, like the rest of the joint, adequate. Troll thought the workers were giving us the evil eye the whole time we were there.

The Cairo Cafe 704 Hennepin Ave.

Price: $3.25

Now we have come to the godhead of all falafel joints. The Cairo Cafe, along with its related restaurant the Java, serve far and away the best falafel we've eaten in the Twin Cities. They use fava beans instead of garbanzos for the falafel patty, making for a unique taste and a softer texture. Also, the falafels at the Cairo are spiced just right. Some other falafel joints scarcely spice their sandwiches at all, but at the Cairo they do it up right. Further, you can add fried vegetables — eggplant, zucchini, potato, and/or cauliflower to your sandwich at no extra cost.

Speaking of cost, the falafels here are not only the best tasting, they're the cheapest, too. We come here again and again. As for the atmosphere, the Cairo is in downtown Minneapolis, so there's usually something happening in there. Also, places in which the entire family who run the restaurant are huddled in a table in the back corner ad that extra touch of ambiance. The only bummer was the time we ate there during the World Series and they had a fucking massive console TV propped up on a table blaring full blast — give us bad canned Middle Eastern muzak any day over that shit!

Cairo Cafe also serves up a nice sized falafel, the biggest in town. Their service is great too: laid back and mellow but really decent and helpful. They know us now, too, so that probably helps. Overall, folks, this is *the* place to eat a falafel, so check it out.

The Java 2801 Nicollet Ave.

Price: $3.25

As far as the falafel sandwich itself goes, the Java serves up the same thing as the Cairo, so it's equally delectable. The only thing that makes it less appealing is the atmosphere: it's always totally empty, like someone died recently. If you want a quiet (not even muzak, usually), dead calm place to sit and ponder life, come here. Cool shit all over the walls, though.

Service-wise, they kind of sit you down and leave you alone, abandoned in the quietness and solitude of the joint, so it seems like they come around less often than they probably really do. Still, it's good, and if you're in South Mpls and can't get downtown, this is the place to go.

Sahari 18th St. and Nicollet Ave.

Price: ?

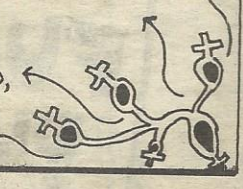
Have you noticed that most of these falafel joints are on Nicollet? Weird. Anyway, we tried to go here but it's only open from 5 to 9 on Sundays — unpunk. Maybe we can check it out another time. For the record, Kerry Glitter thinks it serves a really good falafel, so it's probably a pretty decent place.

FEMZINE

• 56 pages of political activists, Bisexual ♀, Lesbians, victims of violence, Native ♀, ♀ in the punk &/ art scene, ...
• interviews with Liz Stimpson (chair of Toronto Dis-Abled Women's Network), Toronto's alternative female musicians: Chicken Milk, Mourning Sickness, and Shary Boyle
$3.50 ppd Can., $4 US, $4.25 over seas
(cheques payable to Melanie Aguila, preferably cash)

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: essays, critiques, art, poetry, interviews, ... from Wymyn of Colour, Bisexual Wymyn & Lesbians in the punk/hardcore scene (bands too!)

Please write:
FEMZINE
2 Bloor St.W., Ste.100,
Box 120
Toronto, Ont.
M4W 3E2 Canada



PROFANE EXISTENCE and MAXIMUMROCKNROLL PRESENT

BOOK YOUR OWN FUCKIN' LIFE!

Do-It-Yourself Resource Magazine No. 1

There has been a great amount of talk throughout the punk and hardcore scene about moving towards greater independence in our activities. PROFANE EXISTENCE and MAXIMUMROCKNROLL have decided to join forces and put together a resource magazine which will help us put the ideas brought up over the last year throughout our pages into concrete action. We wish to put together as one magazine a resource which will benefit the entire scope of D.I.Y. activities, for use by bands, promoters, small labels, etc.

We will be compiling the resources geographically trying to give as a complete listing of DIY and related activities as possible. The thoroughness of this project will depend on the response we get from people involved with different projects. Listings in this magazine will be free of charge--all you have to do is send in a postcard with the information requested below. This will be an international magazine so we urge all to send a listing

BANDS: Name / Address / Telephone Number / Brief Description (40 words or less please!)
DISTRIBUTORS: Name / Address / Telephone Number / Specialty (Vinyl, cassettes, CD's, zines, etc.) / Area of Coverage (Mailorder, wholesale, gigs, etc.)
LABELS: Name / Address / Telephone Number / Brief Description (40 words or less please!)
PROMOTERS/VENUES: Name / (Mailing) Address / Telephone Number / Hall Capacity / Is Lodging or Food Provided? / Working Terms (guarantee, percentage, etc.)
RADIO STATIONS / Station Name & Call Number / Band Frequency / Address / Telephone Number / Contact Person / Punk-HC shows and times.
RECORD STORES: Name / Address / Telephone Number / Specialties
ZINES: Name / Address / Telephone Number / Postage Paid Price / Frequency / Size / Description (40 words or less please!)
MISCELLANEOUS: We also ask people to send in tips on cheap places to eat, free clinics, crash pads, etc. These listings could be especially helpful for touring bands who may be wondering where to find the veggie grub in Tulsa, Oklahoma!!!

Send your listings and information to:

PROFANE EXISTENCE
P.O. BOX 8722
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55408

ADS

Of course ads will be sold to help pay for this project. However, to make this resource issue as fair as possible we have decided to have only one size. We are doing this to make ads just as accessible to the small 20 page fanzines as the big record conglomerates!

The ad size available is 3 3/4" across by 2" down or 95mm x 51mm (basically a slightly elongated business card size). The cost for ads is $20 which will help keep the cover price as low as possible. Please, only one ad per label, zine, promoter, etc.

Send all ads to:

MAXIMUMROCKNROLL
P.O. BOX 288
BERKELEY, CA 94701

DEADLINE FOR LISTINGS AND ADS IS MARCH 15. MAGAZINE TO BE OUT IN MAY.

OK, the name's kind of a dorky Bay Area thing, if you can come up with a better one then stop complaining and write us!

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